To William Ramsay Esqr

Secretary at the

India House

Sir

Para 1 I am directed by the Right Honble the Governor in Council to request you will inform the Honble the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors that the inclosures referred to in this Duplicate Dispatch from the Right Honble the Governor in Council of this date, are so bulky and voluminous, as to render it unadvisable to send duplicate Copies of them by this conveyance.

2. I am further directed to request you will acquaint the Honorable Committee that it is the intention of the Governor in Council to forward the originals of this dispatch

dispatched by the Ithuriel Packet in the course of
four days.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) Webbe
Chief Secry to Govt

Fort St George
3rd August 1801

To William Ramsay Esqr
Secretary at War
India House

Sir

Pursuant I am directed to request you will
acquaint the Honble the Secret Committee
of the Court of Directors that the order of His
Highness the Nabob of Arcot having been
communicated to the Officers of the late Govern-
ment, commanding them to transfer the
Provinces

Provinces under their respective Superintendance to the charge of the Company's Servants. The Right Honble the Governor in Council expects no interruption in the establishment of his authority over every part of the Carnatic. —

2. I am further directed to request that you will submit to the Secret Committee the inclosed a Copy of a Proclamation which the Governor in Council has commanded the several Collectors to publish to the People of the Carnatic. —

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Signed J Webbe
Chief Secy to Govt

Fort St George
4th August 1801

4

To the Honorable the Secret Committee
of the Honorable the Court of Directors

Honorable Sirs

Para 1. On the 3d August last we had the
Honor of communicating to you by the Rhine Packet
the death of the late Nabob Mahomed Ameer, and the
progress of the then transactions which had terminated
in the declaration of the Prince Azeemeed Doulah
Bahadur to the musnud of Fort St George Subadar of the
Carnatic, and in the establishment of the rights
and interests of the Company in the Carnatic,
the solid foundation of territorial security. Duplicates
of those dispatches having been transmitted by
the Overland conveyance, and subsequently by
the Extra Ships Bridgewater, Worcester & Earl of
Abergavenny, we trust that your
Honorable Committee will have received the
earliest intelligence of those important events.

2. We have since had the honor to

receive

receive the determination of His Excellency the Most
Noble the Governor General in Council on the subject
of the Treaty concluded by and with His Highness
the Nabob Ajeem ul Dowlah, and we have the
satisfaction of informing the Committee, that
the Governor General in Council has expressed
his Excellency's entire approbation of the conduct
of the Government during the progress of the
unhappy events which have terminated in an
arrangement so highly advantageous to the
interests of the Honorable Company —

His respected sense of His Highness
the Nabob Conduct & Character having induced
a mild and moderate prosecution of measures founded on the
instructions of the Governor General for the
security of the British interests in the Carnatic
he deliberately refused to consider into the engage-
ments absolutely necessary to that indispensable
object His Excellency considered the general
spirit

Spirit of the instructions conveyed to Lord Cleve
at different times under the various changes
which have taken place in the situation of
affairs, entirely to warrant this Government
offering to the Son of the late Ameer ul Omrah
the same terms which had been proposed to
the deputed Son of Omdut ul Omrah, and the
establishment of the acknowledged Ameer of the
Ameer ul Omrah in the rank of Nabob of the
Carnatic, was therefore in the judgment of the
Governor General a measure of moderation and
wisdom. —

4. Under these circumstances His
Excellency in Council has been pleased to approve
his entire approbation of the general Spirit
and Stipulations of the Treaty concluded with
the Nabob Ameer ul Dowlah. —

5. The Governor General in Council
accordingly ratified the Treaty executed at Fort
St

St. George, but having declined of introducing some improvements or alterations into that Treaty the Governor General stated his opinion of the proposed modification, subjecting the adoption or rejection of it, without further reference to the discretion of this Government.

The Governor General having deem it to be necessary that a change of the terms of the preamble and of the 1st. Article of the Treaty should be introduced for the purpose of specifying more distinctly that the Nabob Azeem ul Dowlah and his elevation not to any hereditary pretention but to the liberality and generosity of the British Government, a Copy of the Treaty so modified and ratified by His Excellency in Council was transmitted to us, the Governor General in Council having also deemed it to be expedient that explanatory Articles should be added to the Treaty for the purpose of stating with precision the

articles.

Articles of charge to be permanently deducted from
the Revenue previously to the allotment of the
Nabob's proportion: for the purpose of relieving the
Country from the oppressions of Indigenous
land and of establishing pecuniary Resources for
the support of the families of the Nabob Allahma
Ally and of the Nabob Conduct of Omrah, and for
the purpose of securing the income of the Nabo
on account of the proportion of the Revenue to an
ultimate sum, His Excellency in Council transmit
to us instructions for framing additional articl
in conformity to the suggestions of the Govern
General. —

7 Lord Clive had great satisfaction in
observing the peculiar delicacy observed by the
Governor General in proposing these modificat
and the confidence which His Excellency reposed
His Government by consigning to the exercise o
its discretion the eventual adoption of the
improvemen

improvements, considered by His Excellency to be
requisite to the general arrangement of the affairs
of the Carnatic. —

8 In the mode adopted by the Governor
General for conveying His Excellency's observations
and instructions, Lord Clive had sincere pleasure
in receiving the most flattering testimony of
the success which has attended His Lordship's
anxious and uniform endeavours to cultivate the
confidence of the Supreme Government by a
zealous and cordial Co-operation in the system
of measures adopted by the Governor General
with respect to that Government, and Lord
Clive took that opportunity to assure His Excel-
lency of the unfeigned satisfaction which he
felt on this occasion, and which he will feel on
all occasions on carrying into execution those
arrangements, which His Excellency may
judge most conducive to the honor and
prosperity

prosperity of the Empire in India. —

9. We have the honor of informing the Committee, that the reference to the hereditary pretensions of Ojeem ul Dowlah, as stated in the preamble, and first Article of the treaty, was entirely voluntary on the part of Lord Clive, and that throughout the late negotiations the Nabob Ojeem ul Dowlah stated his conviction, that the rights of His Highness's family, founded on its connection with the Company, had been annihilated and that His Highness considered the causes of his own elevation to have flowed from the generosity and moderation of the British Government. Lord Clive was therefore relieved from the suspected difficulties, stated in the Governor General's dispatch in proposing to the Nabob Ojeem ul Dowlah the modification of the preamble, and of the first article of the treaty executed at Fort St. George. —

In

10. In conformity to the principles repeatedly declared by His Highness the Nabob Azeem ul Dowlah received this proposition with the utmost degree of cheerfulness, and relinquished all claim to the acknowledgement of his hereditary succession, without expressing any diffidence or alarm with respect to the intention of the proposed modification. The modified treaty transmitted by the Governor General has accordingly been executed by us, and formally delivered to the Nabob Azeem ul Dowlah. —

11. In obedience to the further instructions of the Governor General in Council with respect to the explanatory articles We have executed and interchanged with the Nabob Azeem ul Dowlah separate articles to be annexed to the treaty, and We have transmitted a Copy of those Articles for the purpose of being ratified by

by the Governor General in Council. –

12 In fixing the ultimate amount of the Nabobs income we have been guided by the Governor Generals separate despatches to Lord Clive, and your Committee will observe that the finance scheme of calculation adopted by us will leave His Highness, in proportion to about three Lacks of Pagodas under the most beneficial operation of the arrangements now adopted for the administration of the Revenues of the Carnatic. –

13 We have the honor to inform the Committee that the ratified treaty with the respective ancillary articles was interchanged with His Highness the Nabob Mogul on the Deccan on the 16th. Instant under every circumstance of public respect suitable to the importance of the occasion. –

14 We entertain a just sense of the honor which the Governor General in Council has conferred

conferred on us by the expression of His Excellency's
public thanks on the occasion of executing this
treaty; and we have assured his Excellency that
we consider this manner in which his sentiments
have been conveyed to us, highly honorable to the
administration of the affairs of this Government.

15. Reflecting on the progress and termi-
nation of this transaction, Lord Clive deemed it to
be his duty to bestow that tribute of praise which
is due to Mr. Webbe and to Lieutenant Colonel
Close; His Lordship considered himself fortunate
that circumstances permitted him to employ
the services of those gentlemen according to the
wishes of the Governor General in the orig-
inal commencement taken at Vellore and having a fair
and that he should be enabled at a subsequent
period of time to avail himself of the same services
in the conduct of the late negotiation. —

Lord

16. Lord Clive has no doubt that the Governor General and the Honble Committee will concur in the importance which His Lordship attaches to the consistent form preserved by them in the progress of the transaction, and to the peculiar advantage derived from the employment of European Gentlemen of honor eminently qualified by their knowledge of Eastern manners and languages to conduct an affair of so much delicacy.

17. Lord Clive knew that it was unnecessary for his Lordship to direct the attention of the Governor General to the merits of Lieutenant Colonel Close and Mr. Hebbe; but His Lordship felt it to be no less an act of justice than of personal satisfaction, to express to his Excellency in Council His Lordships high sense and approbation of the temper, judgement, and ability manifested by those gentlemen in the accomplishment of an arrangement by which

which this Government acting under the authority of the Governor General in Council has been enabled to adjust the affairs of the Carnatic in a manner as honorable and advantageous to the Company and to the Nation. —

18. Lord Cornwallis having in concert with His Highness the Nabob and in conformity to the instructions of His Excellency the Governor General in Council framed an arrangement for the support of the families of the Nabobs Mahomed Ally and Mudut ul Omrah and for the maintenance of the principal Officers of the late Government. has communicated to us the plan proposed by His Lordship in which we entirely concur. —

19. We have the honor of transmitting a Copy of Lord Cornwallis's separate Minute for the information of the Committee, who will have the satisfaction of observing that the total amount of the pecuniary stipends, pensions and establishments

establishments is less than the sum provided by the treaty of 1792. for the family Jahgeer of the late Nabobs, and that the stated principle of distribution, while it secures a liberal support to every branch of the family, will necessarily produce a gradual diminution of the total expence to be incurred by the Company

20. We have read the Letter to receive — your letter of the 15th. May by the overland conveyance

21. In conformity to the instructions contained in that dispatch, we endeavored to frame an arrangement for transferring to England the consolidated debt of 37[illegible] but the variety of persons possessing property in that fund, the different objects of the present proprietors, and the insufficient instructions furnished to the agents of persons residing in Europe have rendered impracticable a general

arrangement

arrangement of the description intended by the Hon.
Court of Directors. –

22. The considerations, which govern
the possessors of the consolidated stock in the year
1784, do not apply to the present proprietors of
that stock, at that period of time the creditor
were a few exceptions of one description
of persons, anxious to realize a precarious
property, and equally desirous of realizing their
property in England. Since that period of time
the debt has been transferred to other persons at
its marchantable value in the Market, and
the present possessors of it are governed by the
different objects of view pursuit, which regulate
the interests of persons holding any of the
public securities in India. With respect to
such persons however as have purchased their
funds for the purposes of regular income, or of

negotiating

negotiating money transactions, the periodical
payments of interest and principal of the inter
of every second month offer advantages which can
be derived from the investitures of property in
any other Indian fund. –

23. It is evident that since that this lett
of your instructions has not embraced all the
interests at present engaged in the consolidate
debt of 1777. but it is equally manifest that th
intention of those instructions was directed t
the relief of our finances from the periodica
discharge of the dividends. –

24. Under the stated circumstances
we have judged it to be expedient to limit the accom
plishment of this arrangement to the operation o
the interests of the persons at present possessing
the consolidated debt of 1777. We have therefore offer
to the proprietors of the consolidated debt the transfe
rence of that fund to the Company on terms calcula

to embrace the interest of those who may be desirous
of transferring their property to England, and of those
who may have purchased the consolidated proper
for long & short dates. For the transference of the
debt to England, we have offered the terms specified
in your dispatches of the 15th May, viz.t payment
of the principal in three annual instalments
on or before the last day of the years 1802. 1803. and
1804. interest payable at the rate of 5 per Cent per
annum from the day of transferring the debt
and the rate of Exchange eight Shillings per
Star Pagoda. To the Native proprietors of the debt
and to other persons desirous of retaining their
property in India, we have offered the commutation
of their property in the consolidated debt for eight per
Cent per annum of this Presidency. —

25. The first part of the proposed
arrangement being conformable to your instructions
requires no explanation. With respect to —

the

the recommendation it offers to the purchasers of the consolidated stock per the immediate account of every other species of property including the discount with an encrease of two per cent on the rate of interest. But it may be necessary to observe that the advantages offered to the proprietors of the consolidated debt does not involve a correspondent disadvantage to the Company, because the Government of Fort St George by being relieved from the periodical payments, made on account of the principal and interest of the consolidated debt, will be enabled to appropriate to the exigencies of the public service the amount of the dividends transferred to the Company, and consequently the operation of the transaction with respect to the Company will be that of borrowing money at 8 per cent interest.

6. It is reasonable to expect that some portion of the consolidated debt will be transferred

to the Company on the said terms, but it being
necessary to allow sufficient time for the operations
of the proposed plan, it is not practicable to state
the probable amount. —

27. Having completed an arrangement
of which we have apprized the Honorable Court
of Directors in our dispatch of the 2d. Ultimo.
by the overland conveyance, for supplying the
deficiency in our funds during the current
year we shall find no difficulty we trust
in encreasing our advances of money for the
purposes of investment to the extent of the
funds which may be raised by the transfer-
rence of the Consolidated debt to the Company
and by the arrival of Specie from England. —

28 We have already had the honor —
of informing you of the instructions — —
received by us from His Excellency the Most

Noble

Noble the Governor General for the purpose
of furnishing from that Presidency supplies
of provisions and Stores for the use of the
Troops in the Red Sea.

29. No assertion has been omitted
in complying with the order of the Governor
General in Council, and the supply of
provisions and Stores sent from thence
has been as extensive, as our means afforded.

30 The system of supply adopted
by the Governor General was necessarily regulated
on a scale sufficiently extensive to provide
for the subsistence of the Army under
the most unfavorable circumstances in
which it could be supposed to be placed.
The success of the British Arms in Egypt
the large supplies which that success

has

has enabled us to collect in that Country; -
and the probability that our forces will -
command all the resources of the Country
precludes, in the opinion of the Governor
General, the further necessity of local aid
from India, which would have been indis-
pensable under less favorable circumstances.
We have therefore received His Excellency's -
orders to discontinue the further supply of
Stores or provisions without His Excellency's
previous sanction. -

31. The mental derangement
of Mr George Parry having rendered it -
necessary to relieve him from the Office
of Special Agent we appointed Lieutenant
Colonel Charles Conner to succeed that -
Gentleman. Lieutenant Colonel Conner

being

being particularly qualified for the duties of that Station by the experience he obtained in the Office of Commissary of Provisions during the late War, has executed there duties in a manner entirely satisfactory to us. —

We have the honor to be

with great respect.

Honorable Sirs

Your faithful

humble Servants.

/ Signed / Clive

Stuart

W. Petrie

W. Fullerton

Fort St. George

1st October 1801.

Com[d]r Gen[l] Moore

Secret Department

To the Honorable the Secret Committee
of the Honorable the Court of Directors

Honorable Sirs,

Paragraph 1 Since the date of our last Secret dispatch, the 1st of October 1801, We have had the honor to receive that of your Committee of the 18th of July last, enclosing copies of your instructions of the same date to the Governor General in Council, and directing the immediate execution of those instructions as far as they depended on this government

2 The late intelligence, which we have received of the Preliminaries of peace with France having been signed and ratified, have rendered it unnecessary for us to detail, in the body of this letter, the measures which have been adopted by the Government of Fort St. George in conformity to your general directions for securing the British interests in the Eastern Settlements of the Portuguese. our attention had been chiefly directed to those principal Establishments at Goa, and notwithstanding that the late change of circumstances in

Europe

Europe has superseded the necessity of our
arrangements for the protection of that Settle-
ment against the probable designs of the Dutch
Republic, We feel a considerable degree of satisfac-
tion in congratulating your Committee with the
effectual attainment of that object previously
to the arrival of the late news from England.

3 With the means, by which this object was
accomplished, We beg leave to refer you to our
Consult 11 Dec. 1801 Owing to the
Secret & Separate Dept. 15 Jan. 1802 No. 17, 18, 20
do 21 do do
do 22 & 23 do do
Secret proceedings, which accompany this despatch
We trust that your Honble Committee will be
satisfied with the degree in which We shall
appear to have anticipated the particular
instructions of the Governor General, in providing
for the Security of Goa, and with the zeal, spirit
and temper displayed by the Resident in its
successful accomplishment. We consider the
conduct of Lt. Williams & Clarke throughout the
whole of the transaction to have reflected
great credit on his discriminating and Military
Character.

4 We have received from the Marquis Wellesley
Consult 17 Jan. 1802 Governor General a copy of the Military dis-
patch from the Honble the Court of
Directors to his Lordship in Council under
date the 11th of February 1801, conveying a general
reduction

recruiting of the Armies under the several Presidencies, and they have been requested to communicate to his Excellency our opinion as to the possibility of reducing the Military Establishments of Fort St George and of Bombay to the Scale prescribed by the Honble Court.

5 In compliance with the desire of the Governor General, He requested Lieutenant General Stuart to deliver his Sentiments on the important points proposed for our consideration, and our President laid before us the copy of a dispatch, addressed by his Lordship to the Governor General in September 1800, stating his opinion in regard to the sufficiency of the actual force there serving under this Presidency, and to the extent of the force required to occupy the Territories then about to be ceded to us by his Highness the Nizam. Lordship also laid before us the sentiments of Major General Wellesley Close and Agnew, as the grounds, on which his Lordship's sentiments had been chiefly founded.

Consult 22nd January 1802

6 The Commander in Chief in a minute recorded at our request has stated his opinion to have been anticipated by that of our President in respect to the insufficiency of our Military Establishment: knowing it to have been the intention of the Honble Court to order a considerable diminution of the Army under this Presi-

Consult 29th January 1802

dency

We

He had endeavoured on his arrival in India
to ascertain what arrangements could be made
for effecting the proposed reduction. For this pur-
=pose he had carefully examined the state of our
possessions, in order that he might discover
from what part of them the troops could be
spared & be withdrawn: But the result of
this enquiry, he informed us, had been to dis-
=cover, that every man in every part of the
Country was employed; that the demand for
troops exceeded the means of supplying them,
and that, independently of foreign relations or
general wars, our Military Establishments ha
appeared to him to be scarcely adequate to
secure the internal tranquillity of our dominions
Having illustrated this opinion by bringing
at once into our view the state of every division
of our territories and by dwelling on our obstina-
=tion the several expeditions against the rebellio
Bhyaree, which, from the general insufficiency
of our force, We had been compelled to undertake
successively, the Commander in Chief proceed
to declare that, in his judgment, our Military
expenditure had been occasioned by the w
weakness and not by the strength of our
Army, being convinced that the expences of
the Southern States, of Bhawlpur campaign and
of the mountainous & jungleous districts, would

the Circars would never have been incurred,
if a sufficient number of troops had been at
our disposal in the several countries where
their services were required.—

8 Referring your Committee to the Minute
of the Commander in Chief and to the dis=
=patch of Lord Clive addressed to the Governor
General, We have the honor to inform you
that We shall proceed at an early period of
time to take the subject into consideration
for the purpose of stating our Sentiments
on this important question to his Excellency

9 After such consultation of the Lds Justices
our President informed us that the impression
which his Lordship had received from the
general Tenor of the dispatches, received by the
Terpsichore, had induced him to give the most
serious consideration to the principles, whic
those dispatches were calculated to establis
with respect to the future administration
of the Government of Fort St George; and that
his Lordship had communicated the result
of that deliberation to the Right Hon.ble the Court
of Directors and to the most Noble the
Governor General.—

10 Lord Clive communicated to us a
Separate dispatch from the Governor General
containing his Excellency's Sentiments of the comm
=unications

communications, made by his Lordship to the Hon^ble Court in his dispatch of the 15^th October to the Chairman and his Excellency's general concurrence in the principles stated in that dispatch. —

11 In conformity to those principles, under the operation of the late orders of the Court of Directors Lord Clive had judged it to be necessary to signify to the Court and to the Governor General, his Lordship's intention of relinquishing the Government of Fort St. George and of proceeding immediately to England. The orders, which had terminated in this resolution, the Governor General had not, under the actual circumstances of the case, disapproved, but the Governor General's sentiments were qualified by a strong reference to the general principle of policy, for the purpose of enabling the Government at home to provide for the contingency of an actual resignation of the Governments in India. —

12 The expediency of such a delay previously to the actual resignation of the important trust had appeared to the Governor General in so forcible a point of view, that his Excellency

had

had judged it to be proper to dispatch the
most confidential Officer about his Excellency's
person express to Lord St George, for the purpose of
urging to Lord Clive the necessity, on this prin-
ciple, of postponing his Lordship's departure
from India, until the Honble the Court of
Directors should be apprized, that the effects
of their late orders would produce a disso-
lution of his Lordship's Government. —
13 Mr President informed us that a high
sense of the honor done to him by the
Most Noble the Governor General, a full
concurrence in the principle stated by his
Excellency against an immediate resignation
of the Government, and the spirit of cordial
cooperation, by which he has endeavoured to
distinguish his administration, had left
no doubt on his Lordship's mind of the
duty of sacrificing every consideration
of private feeling to the urgent demand
of public principles. Lord Clive informed
us, that on these grounds he had
apprized the Honble Court of his Lordship's
determination to postpone his departure
from India for a limited period of time

Lord

14. Lord Clive stated that the circumstances in which their Government had been placed since the receipt of the late orders of the Court of Directors, were pregnant with difficulty and embarrassment, that the extent to which his Lordship's ideas were carried on that subject, had induced his Lordship to state to the Honble Court, that the operation of their orders would, in his judgement, suspend the measures which he considered to be indispensable to the prosperity of the affairs of the Company under this Presidency. His Lordship added that it had in consequence become necessary to meet every exigence with a determination to guard the national welfare, by such means as are now practicable, and that the sacrifices, which on consistency to these principles had been made, and must as yet be made, would constitute the best evidence of the difficulty of continuing to conduct the affairs of this Government under the existing orders from Home.

15 The President recalled to our recollection the earnest anxiety of the Governor General in Council to establish at Fort St. George the

system

system of Land Revenue and of Judicature,
which has produced such essential benefit
to the British territories in Bengal, By the
Excellency's instructions, the Governor General
had repeated his solicitude on the subject,
It became therefore on the opening of our
Present one of his Lordship's most im-
-mediate duties to take effectual mea-
-sures for the accomplishment of the wishes
and intentions of the Supreme Government
and of the Court of Directors Lord Clive stated
that the information already collected, if
applied without delay to the Settlement
of the Land Revenue, would enable us to
make considerable progress in that great
work at an early period of time. It ap-
-peared therefore to his Lordship to be
expedient in the actual state of this
Government with respect to the operation
of the orders of the Court of Directors that
a Special Commission should be appointed
for the express purpose of fixing the per-
-manent assessment of those Lands, as
which might be immediately capable of
that improvement —

16 Lord Clive explained to us, that it
was not his intention by this appointment
to

to interfere with the ordinary conduct of the Revenue Department, which would continue in the usual channel of the Board of Revenue, but by confining the attention of the Special Commission to the object of the permanent Settlement His Lordship conceived, that much greater progress would necessarily be made in that work, than if it should continue to be coupled with the voluminous details of the Revenue Department, which on the other hand the Board of Revenue being freed from the investigation of that subject would be at liberty to devote its application to the affairs of the provinces more nearly annexed to the British Authority in the Peninsula

17. Lord Clive stated to us that he thought it necessary to avail himself of the latitude conveyed in the above mentioned dispatch of the Governor General, to benefit by the information and experience required by Mr Webbe in Bengal; and with respect to the duties of the Resident at Mysore, during Mr. Webbe's temporary detention at the Presidency, his Lordship communicated his intention of awaiting the further instructions

instructions of the Governor General. His L^dship concluded with proposing that the Special Commission should be immediately appointed, and with recommending that Mr. Cockburn and Mr. Webb should be united in the Commission under Mr. Petrie whom his Lordship requested to preside. —

18 The proposition of our President was opposed by Mr. Petrie and Mr. Dick in the minutes severally recorded by those Gentlemen It will be sufficient therefore to inform your Hon^ble Committee that the Commander in Chief having concurred in the Sentiments of Lord Clive, the Special Commission has been accordingly appointed, as proposed by his Lordship, with whose request Mr. Petrie has complied, conceiving it to be his duty notwithstanding his disapprobation of the measure to acquiesce in the Resolution of the Governor in Council and to endeavour by a conscientious discharge of the duties, attached to his Station as President of the Commission, to advance the public interests and to merit the good opinion of Government. —

By to Consult 5 Feb^y
Consult 12 Feb^y

19 At our Subsequent consultation of the 5th Instant, Mr. Petrie recorded a Minute in reply to that part of our President's recent communication, which explained his Lordship's reasons for postponing his intended resignation of the Government.—

20 The attention of Mr Petrie was particularly attracted to his Lordship's declaration "that to enable the Government at Home to provide for the contingency of an actual resignation of this Government, had been the principal cause of his Lordship's deviation from his first intended purpose; and he was of opinion that he should be deficient in respect and gratitude to the Honble the Court of Directors and insensible of the honor which they had conferred upon him, if he were not to shew that the Honble Court had actually foreseen the contingency, to which our President has referred, and had provided a Successor on the spot to supply the vacancy which might be occasioned by every possible event that could deprive the Company of the services of Lord Clive.—

21 Having referred us, in discharge of this duty, to the Public dispatches from the Honble Court of the 14th of March 1759 and of the 5th of June 1759 which direct his temporary succession to

to the choice in the event of his vacancy, and having explained that he did not question the force or propriety of the reasons which had influenced the conduct of our President, Mr. Petrie concluded with observing that although the duration of his appointment by the Court of Directors was precarious and eventual, yet the Honble distinction it conferred could not be taken from him, and that he should feel it with the most lively sentiments of Gratitude to the last moment of his life. —

22 We have the honor to apprize you that the Separate Articles of the Treaty lately concluded with the Nabob of the Carnatic, having been ratified by the most Noble the Governor General, have been finally interchanged with his Highness. —

23 We have received from the Governor General a transcript of his Excellency's dispatch to your Honble Committee under date the 21st October 1801 It has been recorded on the Secret proceedings of this Government and copies of it have been furnished to Mr. Josiah Webbe and to Lieutenant Colonel Close for the satisfaction of those Gentlemen —

Gov. Gen.l 23d Instr.

Sec.y to Govt. 22d Instr.

We

24 We have already expressed to your Committee the high sense which we entertain of the approbation bestowed on this Government by the Most Noble the Governor General for its conduct in the late Settlement of the affairs of the Carnatic, and the very flattering terms in which his Excellency's commendation of that conduct has been communicated to your Committee have been still more grateful to our feelings. —

25 By this conveyance we forward a complete set of our proceedings in this Department for the year 1801 together with the Broken set from 13th July 1801 to the 12th Instant. —

We have the honor to be
with the greatest respect
Honorable Sirs
your faithful
humble Servants

Fort St George
7th February 1802.

/signed/ Clive
" J Stuart
" W Petrie
" M Dick

Dick
Secretary

Secret Department

To the Honorable the Secret Committee
of the Honorable the Court of Directors

Honorable Sirs

Dear Sir On the 17th Ult.o We apprized your Honorable Committee that the Most Noble the Governor General had demanded our opinion of the extent to which it might be practicable to carry into effect the orders of the Honorable Court of Directors dated the 11th of February 1801 as far as they related to a diminution of the Military Establishments of Fort St George and of Bombay We at the same time attracted your attention to a Minute of the Commander in Chief and to certain documents recorded by our President on the occasion, and We stated to you our intention of proceeding at an early period of time to take the subject into our consideration for the purpose of communicating to the Governor General our sentiments on that important question.

2 His Excellency's opinion on the inexpediency of the prescribed measure having since yielded to considerations arising from the late intelligence of the Preliminaries of peace with France having been signed and ratified

We have in consequence the honor to inform you that we have received from the Most Noble the Governor General a copy of the Honble Court's Military dispatch to the Government at Fort William under date the 21st of August last, together with his Excellency's instructions, grounded on the orders contained in that dispatch, and applied to the Military Establishment of this Presidency.

3 As these instructions of the Governor General are to be found on the Public Records of our Proceedings, which accompanied this dispatch, We beg leave to refer your Honble Committee to our minute, noted in the Margin, for the particular points of Military Reform, which his Excellency has either suggested for our observance or has suggested for our consideration. We have also the honor to refer you to a Minute recorded by the Commander in Chief, as containing our united sentiments on the extent to which the Native force serving under this Presidency can be reduced with safety.

4 Your Committee will observe the very candid manner in which the Commander in Chief has stated his objections to a reduction of the number of a Native Regiment as

Consg 9th March 1802.

as well as to the reduction of the strength of the Battalions below the number of Privates fixed in the year 1796; and We beg leave to recommend to your consideration the principle on which the Commander in Chief has supported the present System of our Native Cavalry in preference to that which has been prescribed by the orders of the Honble Court —

5 We beg leave to refer your Committee and the Honble the Court of Directors to the minute of our President noted in the Margin for the mode suggested by his Lordship and adopted by us for assisting the Body guard of the Governor by removing from the strength of the Regiments of Native Cavalry a number of men equal to the Corps required for the duties of his Lordship's personal Guard —

w. mely Guards

6 We have postponed the reduction of the Native Corps forming the Subsidiary force at Hyderabad to the strength of 1796, because such a reduction would diminish the force below the numbers stipulated by treaty, but We have referred this point for the consideration and determination of his Excellency the Governor General

We

7. We shall have the honor to communica
to the Court of Directors in our dispatches se
from the Military Department the several
reductions, which will immediately take pla
in conformity to our resolutions in Council
on the 9.th Instant, in the mean time We ha
the satisfaction to inform you that the actu
reduction of our ordinary Military expence
will not, according to the Settlement of the
Military Auditor General be less than
S.Rs. 8,58,19,20 Pagodas per Annum

8 Under the conviction impressed on our
minds by the reasoning of the Commande
in Chief and by the communication recently
made to us by our President of the Sentiments
entertained by Several of the most distinguish
Officers under his Lordships Government, and
which We had the honor to notice to your
Committee in our dispatch of the 7.th Inst.
We shall not hesitate in reply to the
further instructions of the Governor
General, noted in the Margin, to State
to his Excellency our deliberate opinion
that a further reduction of our Army could
not fail of producing the most serious
embarrassment

Instr. 16th March 1802

embarrassment by endangering our internal
tranquillity and by hazarding the progress
of our arrangements for the future constitu-
tion of this Government —

9 We nevertheless request your Committee
to be assured that We shall be ready to
adopt all further measures and reductions in
the Military expenditure at this Presidency
whenever it shall be practicable to effect
them without the inconvenience which is
apprehended in the present state of affairs
to the interests of the Honble Company —

10 We shall hereafter communicate to
the Honble the Court of Directors any improve-
ments, which it may be found practicable
to introduce into the economy of the Mint
Department, when the Board of Trade shall
have submitted to us the detailed report,
which they have been required to furnish
on the subject, and in the Departments
of the Secretary's Office which it is Our Effective
intention according to the suggestion of the
Governor General to take into his early
consideration —

11 By this conveyance we do
forward the Packet with our Proceedings
in

in this Department from 14.th February to the
19.th Instant. — We have the honor to be
with the greatest respect
Honorable Sirs,
your faithful
humble Servants
(signed) Chas
Stuart
" W. Petrie
" M Dick

Fort St George
23.rd March 1802.

To William Ramsay Esqr
Secretary at the
East India House

Sir

Sir I have the honor to inform you that the last dispatch from this Department was dated the 23rd March last and was forwarded on the Monarch. —

2 I am directed to transmit to you by the present opportunity the Secret proceedings of this Government in continuation from 23 March to the 11th Instant, apprizing you that the Right Noble the Governor in Council does not consider them to contain any matter of sufficient importance to form the subject of a Separate dispatch to the Honble the Secret Committee. —

I have the honor to be
Sir
your most Obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) Jno Adamson
Chief Secy to Govt

Fort St George
29 May 1802 —

To the Honorable the Secret Committee
of the Honorable the Court of Directors

Honorable Sirs

Para 1 Since the 23rd of March the date of our last Secret letter We have had the honor to receive the dispatches of your Committee dated the 7th & 23d of February and the 4th of May, neither of which appears to us to require any observation.

2 By our dispatches of the 7th of February and 23rd of March your Hon'ble Committee will have been sufficiently apprized of our opinion, respecting the extent, to which the Military Establishment of this Presidency can be reduced with safety. The Secret proceedings of this Government, which we have now the Secret Consult 18th June honor to transmit to you contain our final reply to the Governor General in Council on that important subject, and we beg leave to recommend it to your attentive consideration.

3 In addition to this We beg leave to draw the attention of your Committee to some late correspondence, of which the conclu- 4th March 1st Para
ding part has been recorded in the 4th Secret Consult 5th Octr

Secret

Secret Department, which has taken place between the Resident at Hydrabad and with the Officer Commanding in the Ceded districts, in consequence of an application from the former for a force to be detached from that quarter to cooperate with the troops of the Nizam against certain insurgents in Raichore. The objections stated by the Commanding Officer against the Detachment of the force required and the reasons, by which his objections in the present instance have been eventually overruled, tend equally to shew the impossibility of any further diminution of our Army. The Resident at Hydrabad to apply to that Court for the payment of a sum due to the Honble Company on account of Revenue collected from the Ceded districts by the Officers of the Nizam lest the application should lead to a demand on the part of his Highness for the fulfilment of our Subsidiary engagements, might justify a still stronger inference. We have stated the circumstance in our Political despatch of this date without connecting it with these considerations, but they are too obvious to escape the notice of the Honble

3rd to Chl Cornwallis 18th Augt
Chl Cornwallis 10th Sept
3rd to Chl Cornwallis 21st Sept

Hon'ble Committee and We request that they may
be deemed to be conclusive on the subject.

4 Since We had last the honor of addressing
your Committee, We have communicated to the
Governor General in Council our sentiments
in regard to the proposed improvement of the
fortifications at Seringapatam and to the
establishment of a Military Depôt in that
Fortress for the supply of the forces in Mysore
in the Ceded districts and in the Western
provinces. The letter which we have addressed
to his Excellency in Council on the occasion
is included in the proceedings which
accompany this dispatch. We beg leave to
add for the information of your Committee
that the Minute of the Commander in
Chief on this subject, noticed in our Military
General Letter of the 29th May last has been
subsequently transferred to the Secret from
the Military Department.

Court Consults 22d June

Court Consults 29th June

5 By our Military dispatch of this
date the Hon'ble Court will have been
made acquainted with our appointment
of Lieutenant Colonel Fuller to command
the Garrison at Pennacoil. We have the
honor

honor to refer your Committee to the Minute of the Commander in Chief noted in the Margin for the reasons which have induced us to reoccupy that Station.

6 We have informed the Honble Court in our dispatch of this date from the Political Department, that the Governor General in Council had been pleased to approve and to confirm the provision, which we had made for the maintenance of the Son of Ameen Sing; but the circumstance of his Excellency's letter being recorded in the Secret Department having prevented us from bringing it under this immediate notice, We do ourselves the honor of noting it in the Margin of this dispatch for the Satisfactory information of your Honble Committee.

Sent Consult 10th Sept.

7. By this dispatch We have the honor to transmit to your Committee the Separate Correspondence of the Right Honble the Governor, recorded by his Lordship in the Secret Department on the 5th of March last.

Pol. Consult 5th March

8. We forward, as a number in the Packet, the plan of the proposed improvement of the fortifications of Seringapatam, together

together with an Estimate of the probable
expence —

9 By this conveyance we forward the "
Broken set of our proceedings in this "
Department from 15th May to the 5th Instt

We have the honor to be
with the greatest respect
Honorable Sirs
your faithful
humble Servants —

Fort St. George
26th Oct. 1802

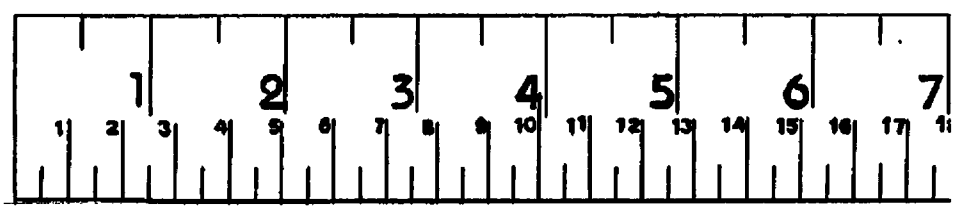
(Signed) Clive
" I Stuart
" W Petrie
" M Dick

Comp. Secy
Madras

END

# CLIVE MS.

# VOLUME 300.



# Secret Department

## The President's Minute in Council dated 4th December 1798

As the preparations, made by ourselves, and our hostile Neighbour, render War a probable event, and as the Season for Military operations is near at hand, and we are still unfurnished with any plan of offensive War against Tippoo Sultaun from Bengal, I deem it highly expedient, that we should without delay take into our most serious consideration our present actual situation with a view to the being prepared with a Systematic and combined plan of attack upon the dominions of the Sultaun. I therefore request the Commander in Chief will turn the matter in his mind and favor us with his Sentiments thereon, and in order to facilitate to him the means of complying with my request I desire to assume the following data which, by confining the subject within certain limits, may enable him to form his Ideas for the management of such a plan with more precision, than if it was left quite at large.

Lord Cleveland's Minute - proposing that the commander in chief shall be requested to draw up a plan of the behaviour of the army, and with this view, to take into consideration the state of the army &c &c

I presume that by the end of this Month our Army will be augmented to nearly to 17,000 Men, that all the necessary Stores for the Army, and battering Train will be collected at Vellore or in its Neighbourhood by the 20th Instant; that by the same period the Army will be in Readiness to take the Field and encamp, that in the course of this Month 3000 Native Infantry may be expected to arrive upon the Coast from Bengal, and that the whole of the Bullocks for the general Equipment amounting to 50,000 will be in readiness by the Middle of January.

I will also assume that a Subsidiary Army from the Nizam, consisting of Colonel Roberts's Detachment of 6,000 Men, of the same Number of the Nizam's Coast Infantry, and a considerable Body of his Cavalry shall arrive at Kirpah by the 10th January, and be in readiness to form a junction with our Main Army at such point as the Commander in Chief shall fix, and afterwards to proceed under his direction to the Siege of Seringapatam.

In addition to this force I reckon upon Bombay Army of 6000 Men being prepared to

to ascend the Western Gauts, and cooperate with the Main Army in the attack of Seringapatam - Of the 6500 Men supposed to be upon their Voyage from Europe and the Cape to India I will only calculate upon the immediate Service of the 1500 from the Cape, as the late advices from Bengal may be expected to arrive by the Middle of the Month, and as the Men have had an opportunity of being Seasoned from having served some time at the Cape, I would reckon that a Corps consisting of about 1000 of these Troops may be employed in the Field - By this computation the Army for the field including the Troops on the Coast, the Corps under Colonel Roberts the expected Reinforcement from Bengal, and the force from the Malabar Coast would amount to nearly 30,000 Men -

I am aware that the Commander in Chief in India has been requested to digest a general System of operation against Mysoor, and that when completed it may be transmitted to us in order that the Supreme Government may have the means of ascertaining how far it may meet the Sentiments of this Government. Mean while I am of opinion, that, if the Commander in Chief on the Coast gives the Subject mature consideration, and arranges his Ideas into a general plan of attack to be submitted to Government the most desireable Consequences may attend the Result.

I Signed / Clive

The

1st Number
778

President's Minute in Council dated 26th February

The impending War, and the increasing distance of the Army having drawn the immediate attention of Government to the situation of Madras, and its Vicinity, with a view to its defence and Security from the Depredations of the Enemy, to the replenishing the Stores of the Arsenal, necessarily much reduced by the extensive and complete Equipment of the greatest British force, that ever took the field in India, to the providing a Sufficient Stock of Grain for the Stores of the Garrison now nearly exhausted by the considerable drains made from it for the Supply of the Army, and by the quantity delivered out to the publick Markets during the temporary Scarcity, which prevailed at the season of the Monsoon; and with a view to the guarding by every reasonable precaution against the Scarcity, with which owing to the failure of the periodical Rains, these districts are threatened, I proceed to state what has been already done for the attainment of these important objects, and to submit to the Governor-General, and the

Board

President's Minute in Council stating various Particulars and Suggestions relative to the defence of Madras and its Vicinity, and regarding a Supplies of Grain

Board what further measures appear to me proper to be adopted for their accomplishment

The Garrison of Madras consists at the present of about 700 Europeans, and an incomplete Battalion of Sepoys commanded by Captain Gray, and the Madras Battalion of 600 Men commanded by Captain Hall, which according to the best opinions upon this Subject it might not, when the extent of its duties, and the posts, which it would be wise to occupy, are considered, to be composed of less than 1000 Europeans, and three effective Native Battalions, with a Company of artillery, of which it is nearly unprovided

In Compliance with the Suggestions of the Court of Directors, and of the Supreme Government a Militia force of nearly 800 Men has been assembled, and is as much advanced in its Military exercises as can reasonably be expected from the period of its first meeting, and from the Number of times, which the persons, who compose it, have been required to set apart from their Ordinary Employments for the purpose of training themselves to the use of Arms.

This

This Corps, if there should be a necessity for embodying it, would I doubt not prove an important addition of strength to the defence of the place, but under present circumstances cannot in the smallest degree contribute to the relief of the heavy duties of the Garrison.

The principal Natives of the Black Town, on the part of themselves and the Inhabitants, whose habits do not permit of their personal Services, have offered to associate themselves for the purpose of raising a Native Battalion of Infantry and a Company of Artillery. I propose that this offer should be accepted, and that the Hydrabad Recruits under Lieutenant Longman now ordered to the Presidency be called the 2d Madras Battalion, and be considered as the Corps, which is to be supported by the Native Inhabitants of the Black Town. I also propose that a Native Company of Artillery, to be called Black Town Militia Artillery, be immediately raised according to a plan, which I now deliver in. The expense of both these Establishments to be paid by the Company, but to be

ultimately

ultimately defrayed from the assessment offered by the Natives of the Black Town

I propose also that Captain Hill shall be directed to increase the Madras Battalion commanded by him to 800 Men, and that that vigilant and active Officer be appointed to the particular charge of the Command of the Black Town with Majors Pay and Batta, an addition, which he will well deserve for undertaking a Command of so much labour and detail. The Commander in Chief having recommended that the detail of Native Cavalry doing duty as the Body Guard, should be struck off the strength of Regiments, I propose that it shall in future be established as a Separate Corps, and this I do the more readily, not only for the reason assigned by the Commander in Chief, that it will have the effect of simplifying the army Accounts but from finding that this measure will be attended with no additional expence to the Company, but may produce a small saving by striking off the full Batta from the Officers, to which they will not be entitled by the Rules of the Service, when

it

it becomes an established Corps, and because it will give a character of respect and Permanency to the Body Guard, which it appears to me to be wise and expedient for that Corps to possess.+ and it having been found necessary upon account of the increased duty of the Body Guard owing to the Governor Generals presence at this Presidency, and to the necessity of placing small parties of Horse at the Mount, and other posts, to raise an additional Troop of Cavalry, I propose that the Troop now compleated by Captain Grant be placed upon the same footing with the Body Guard, and considered attached to it during the war.—

I recommend that Captain Gray be appointed to the Command at the Mount, where there is already a party of Cavalry; that a Company of Sepoys with two light field

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N.B. The establishment of Gallopers added to the Regiments of Native Cavalry having taken from the respective Corps a Number of men fully equal to the Body Guard, it may be worth of consideration, whether it may not be advisable to complete those Regiments to the Number consisted of before the detail of the Body Guard was ordered to be struck off.—

field pieces, and the Corps of Infantry newly raised by Captain Grant be sent there, and placed under the Command of Captain Gray, to whom General Bathwaite is desired to give Instructions. —

As having as yet received a Return of Military Stores, I am not able to suggest any particular directions for the Supply of what may be deficient, & shall therefore for the present only recommend that the Military Board be instructed to apprize Government with as little delay as possible of what is wanting to reinstate the Army in a Sufficient degree of Resource. —

Adverting to the important Subject of Grain, I beg to remind the Board, that the failure of the periodical Rains in the Southern and Western Countries, and the Small Supply of Rice remaining at Madras, induced me in December last to propose the appointment of a Committee to ascertain the exact quantity of Grain in the different Districts and in the Market, and to confine the issues directed to be made from the Garrison Store to the daily Consumption of the Settlement avoiding any Restriction as to prices. The

Board

Board agreeing in opinion with me that
every freedom in the Trade of Grain should
be observed consistent with the general good
of the Inhabitants at large, a temporary
relief was derived from the measures the
Committee were prompted to take, and the
subsequent arrival of Rice Vessels has hitherto
continued to feed the Markets; But, calculat-
ting upon the Small Store remaining, the
great and constant demand increased by
the necessity of supplying the daylure
Inhabitants from Madras on the failure
of their Crops, and anxious by every proper
means to avert the Calamities of famine
I suggested the indispensible necessity of
immediately requesting aid from the Govern-
ment General to the extent of 5000 Gar.
of Rice to be consigned to us at an early
period, and of directing the Board of Revenue
to give orders, that the Northern Collector
should take measures for forwarding all
their Surplus Grain to the Presidency, in
which was estimated at about 10,000 Gar.
of Paddy — Every precaution was taken to
Secure Country Craft for this Grain, and a
part of it has in consequence been received

at

at the Presidency: more may yet be expected, but as at this advanced season, much dependance cannot be placed on any Vessel not Commanded by an European, it becomes an object for the Board's consideration whether it may not be advisable to take up Tonnage for the transportation of Grain from the Northward to this Presidency

I beg to assure the Board that the Receipt and Expenditure of Grain shall continue an object of my attention, and that in case of need, I shall propose such further Measures to the Board as the occasions may require.

6th February 1792. Signed / Clive

Memorandum

The total want of artillery at the Presidency for the defence of the Black Town, and for other purposes of public service, during the war, makes it indispensibly necessary that some expedient should be adopted to supply this deficiency, so as to leave the whole of the effective European artillery to be employed with the army; It is therefore proposed

That

That a Company of Native artillery of the undermentioned Strength be raised for the Service, to be stationed at the Presidency during the War and to be paid and clothed as follows Viz.ᵗ

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Subadar | Monthly pay | | 16 " " |
| 2 Jemidars | 6 Pag.ˢ each | | 12 " " |
| 6 Havildars | 4 do. | do. | 24 " " |
| 6 Naigues | 3 do. | do. | 18 " " |
| 1 Drummer @ 2 " 2 " | | | 5 " " |
| 1 Fife @ 2 " 2 " | | | |
| 2 Bearers | @ 2 Pag.ˢ each | | 4 " " |
| 88 Privates | @ 2 do. | do. | 176 " " |
| | | Pagodas | 255 " " |

2 That to this Company shall be attached a deputy Commissary and 2 Conductors from the Arsenal at Fort Saint George, who are to act as Officers in all Situations where their Service with the Native Artillery may be requered. —

3 That the Company be commanded by Mr. Bishop Deputy Commissary of Stores, who is to draw the pay and Gratuity of Lieutenant, in addition to the Allowances which he at present receives, while he continues in this charge. —

That

4 That two Conductors, who may be recommended as properly qualified, be appointed to do duty with the Company of Native Artillery and to draw the Subsistence of Ensigns in addition to their present allowances, while they may be so employed

5 That a European Drill Serjeant and a Drill Naique be allowed to this Company with the usual Extra Staff pay of those situations.

6 That the extra allowance for a pay Havildar and Stationary be drawn for this Company, the Same as for Companies of Native Infantry

7 That the Company be clothed at the expence of Government by the Clothier Contractor on the same terms, as the Clothing of the Native Infantry for the year 1798 - with the exception of the Subidars coat that may require a trifling additional expence in consequence of being trimmed with Gold Lace.

8 That Major Clarke, as the Officer in the immediate charge of the artillery at St. Georges, be ordered to take the necessary measures without loss of time

for recruiting and completing the Company of Native Artillery in the manner before directed, and to recommend, thro' the proper Channels to Government, the Conductors, who are best qualified to act as Officers to their Company.

9 That this Company be armed with Swords, and when employed on detached services each man to have the addition of a pair of pistols for his own Security and the defence of the Gun, to which he may be attached.

10 That the Deputy Commissary of Stores and Conductors, being appointed to act as Officers with the Native Artillery is not to preclude their being employed at other times in their proper Stations of Ordnance Officers, in the manner in which the Commissary of Stores in the Arsenal, and the Commanding Officer of Artillery in Garrison may think necessary for the public Service.

4

Presidency Minute in Council dated 27th Dec. 1799

(Presidency Minute stating a despatch from the Governor General regarding a publication of the French army in Egypt and the circumstances attending the publication of that address laid before the Board different drafts founded on the resolutions of the Governor General late division of Records containing the proceedings and minutes at the inclusion of the Siege of Seringapatam)

I am with great concern that I record a despatch which I have received from the Governor General on the subject of a printed publication entitled an "Address to the "army from the Committee for Prize affairs" and transmitted to his Lordship from the office of the Agitant General to the army under this Presidency

That a proceeding so irregular in itself and so disrespectfull to the Governor General should have occurred must be peculiarly painfull to my feelings, but as that a publication so reprehensible, as that of the prize Committee, should have been spread and circulated without the adoption of any measures by this Government to arrest the progress of the evil or to vindicate the authority of the State, may convey with too much appearance of truth the imputation of insufficient Vigilance or energy in the Councils of this Presidency I deem it therefore necessary to inform the Board that the address of the Prize Committee was printed and circulated without my knowledge, but that as soon as the

addres

address was communicated to me, I took the only measure then practicable in Concert with the Commander in Chief for the recall and ultimate Suppression of the paper: from the peculiar circumstances however attending the circulation of it, I thought it advisable to communicate my Sentiments on the Subject in a Separate dispatch to the Earl of Mornington.

The Letter of the Governor General now laid before the Board having however anticipated the intention of my dispatch to His Lordship, it becomes necessary to prevent any further delay in the execution of the measures directed by the Governor General and I accordingly lay before the Board draft of a General Order, and of letters to Major General Floyd and the Adjutant General of the Army, founded on the instructions of the Governor General, which I propose to issue immediately.

It is my intention at a future opportunity to record a Minute on the subject of the provisions in Camp at the Conclusion of the Seige of Seringapatam.

7th December 1799.

/Signed/ Clive

To

To the Right Honorable
Edward Lord Clive
Governor &c. &c. &c.
Fort St. George

My Lord

I have the honor to acquaint your Lordship, that I lately received under the official Signature of Lieutenant Colonel Agnew the Adjutant General of the Army on your Establishment, the enclosed printed paper entitled an "address to the Army from the Committee for prize affairs." —

This paper was transmitted to me by Lieutenant Colonel Agnew, under a cover addressed to me, and superscribed "Service" with the official signature of that Officer, unaccompanied by any letter. —

While the contents of this address were under my consideration, I received a letter from Major General Floyd, in his capacity of President of the Prize Committee, requesting that I would cause the address to be returned to him under cover to the Adjutant General at Fort St. George, in order that an error in the Calculation might be corrected, or removed, and some alteration made in the 2d. Paragraph of the 39th. page of the address. —

It is my painful duty to call your
Lordship's attention to the substance of that
address, and to the manner in which it has
been published, transmitted to me, and subse-
=sequently recalled.

Any direct official communication
from the adjutant General of the army of
Fort St. George to the Governor General at
Fort William, respecting matters of a public
nature, under any circumstances, would at
least be irregular. The address in question
relates to subjects of great public importance
I must therefore request your Lordship to
enquire and report to me whether the
adjutant General of your Establishment, can
furnish any explanation to justify the
apparent irregularity and disrespect of en-
=closing such a paper under a cover addres-
immediately to the Governor General,
unaccompanied by any letter, notifying the
purposes for which the Paper was trans-
=mitted, the authority from which it proceed
or that by which Lieutenant Colonel Agnu
had been empowered to become the Channe
of its circulation.

With regard to the letter from Major
General Floyd, of that Officer, as President
of the Prize Committee, deemed it necessary

to

to make any application to the Governor General, it ought to have been previously submitted to the Commander in Chief at Fort St. Geo, and by his Excellency to your Lordship: through which Channels it would have been regularly brought under the consideration of the Governor General in Council, provided your Lordship in Council had judged the transmission of such an application to the Governor General in Council, to be unexceptionable.

But the irregular manner, in which this letter has been forwarded to me by the President of the Prize Committee, is the least exceptionable part of this extraordinary transaction.

You Lordship will no doubt observe with surprise, that in this letter, I am desired to return the Printed address, not to the President of the Prize Committee, back to a third person: and this person is the principal officer on the Staff attached to the Commander in Chief on your Establishment.

The request contained in this letter from Major General Floyd is as improper, as the manner in which it is conveyed to me is irregular. Your Lordship will have the goodness to signify my sentiments on the transaction to Major General Floyd, in such manner as you may judge most proper.

From

From Major General Floyd's letter, it appears that the printed address to the Army, has been circulated under the Official Signature of the adjutant General of your Establishment. I must again request your Lordship to ascertain the considerations which have induced Lieutenant Colonel Agnew, for whose character I entertain great esteem, and whose public situation demands the most exemplary conformity to the principles of Official regularity and Military discipline, to become instrumental to the circulation of a paper utterly incon-sistent with either.

Your Lordship I am persuaded must concur with me in opinion that the general nature of this address is highly dangerous and reprehensible. Omitting the obvious objections, which should preclude all such applications to the whole or to any branch of our Military Establishment, the object of this address is nothing less, than to invite a considerable proportion of the Officers of the Army to discuss questions of great public importance, respecting which it is their duty to abide implicitly by the decision of your Lordship, or of the Governor General in Council. —

I

I request therefore that your Lordship in Council will express in General Orders such whatever reference you may judge advisable to my authority, your disapprobation of the address in question, and that you will absolutely prohibit its further circulation; I also request you to prohibit under the strongest injunctions, the publication in future of any address to the Army or to any division of it by any person or persons whatever, without the previous Sanction of your Lordship, or of the Governor General in Council.

I was with considerable Surprize and concern that I found a principal object of this address to be the exclusion of the Detachment Commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Brown, from a participation in the property captured at Seringapatam.

I think it unnecessary to enter into any discussion of the communication between Lieutenant Colonel Brown on the part of his Detachment, and the Meeting of Officers previous to the nomination of the Prize Committee, or of the several orders of the Commander in Chief subsequent

subsequent to those of the 3. of May 1799.

The claims of Lieutenant Colonel Brown's Detachment must be decided on principles altogether inconsistent with those proceedings

The whole property captured at Seringapatam belonging absolutely to the Crown, it is evident that the right of any part of the army to apply any part of that property to their own use is derived from the orders of the Governor General in Council at Fort St. George acting on his responsibility, under his general powers of superintendence, control, and direction, over the whole civil and Military Government of the British possessions in India. —

No Detachment or Committee of the army, can therefore possess a right to dispose of that property or of any part of it, or to decide the claims of other detachments of the Army to a share in the participation, otherwise than according to the rules and within the limits prescribed by the authority of the Government, which sanctioned the division of the spoil. —

Independent of the question of right, neither such a Committee, nor any part, nor even the whole body of the Army can be supposed to possess the information requisite

requisite to form a competent Judgement of the degree of assistance furnished by the several branches of the Army respectively, towards the success of the Combined operations, which led to the Capture. —

The corps therefore, to which the address of the Prize Committee is directed, are as incompetent to decide the claims of Lieutenant Colonel Brown's Detachment, as the Committee itself; and any attempt on the part of those Corps, or of the Committee, to determine those claims, would be an unwarrantable assumption of power, equally repugnant to the principles of justice, and to the rules of Subordination. —

The appointment of a Prize Committee in the case in question, necessarily supposed a previous Relinquishment on the part of the Crown, or of an authority acting on behalf of the Crown, of His Majesty's right to the captured property. The necessary consequence of such a relinquishment was a transfer of His Majesty's right to such Corps as were specifically named or described by the authority acting on his behalf. These preliminary points having been adjusted, the province of the Prize Committee was clearly

defined

defined. That Committee possessed no further power than to apply the general rules and restrictions, under which the grant of the property was made, to individual cases. But this power could not be extended to the exclusion of entire Corps, or Detachments of the Army, from the general participation, & especially upon Vague presumptions, expressed with unbecoming levity, that the Services of such Corps or Detachments of the Army, had not cooperated in the Common cause. —

The Crown, or the authority acting on behalf of the Crown, can solely be competent to determine what Corps shall participate in the property Captured at Seringapatam as solely vesting the right to dispose of the Captured property, with the means of judging the Comparative exertions of the several Corps in those operations, which led to the Capture. — —

These considerations should have suggested to the Prize Committee the necessity of reserving the claims of Lieutenant Colonel Brown's Detachment to the Governor General in Council. —

Your

Your Lordship is aware that in originally sanctioning the distribution of the Prize taken at Seringapatam, I considered it as a fundamental principle (as will appear by reference to my order in Council at Sultanpet) that the benefits of the distribution should be extended on the broadest grounds, without distinction, or partiality, and with the utmost possible latitude to the whole allied army in the Field.—

The orders of Lieutenant General Harris of the 5th May, (although issued previous to the receipt of my authority for applying the property to the use of the Captors,) were perfectly consonant to that principle, and it will be in your Lordship's recollection that previous to my departure from Fort St. George, when a Rumour reached me of the question, which had been agitated respecting Lieutenant Colonel Brown's Detachment, I expressed to the Commander in Chief my confident expectation, that the Committee, (adverting to the liberal principles prescribed in the orders of the 5th May and in my subsequent order in Council) would admit the just claims of this Detachment to a participation in the property

and preclude the necessity of my further
interference. —

Having been disappointed in
these expectations, the Maxims of general
justice; the necessity of preventing similar
presumptions of power, and the duty of repress
every emotion of insubordination and irregularity
compel me to request that your Lordship
will forthwith publish my positive direction
that my order in Council at Fort St George
relative to the distribution of the Prize
Captured at Seringapatam, comprehending
all the Corps included in the orders of
the Commander in Chief of the 5th May
1799, be considered as the fundamental
principle for determining what Corps are
entitled to share in the property Captured
at Seringapatam, and that Lieutenant Colonel
Brown's Detachment and any other Corps
to which the above mentioned order in
Council may extend, be admitted according
to Share in the Captured property. Your
Lordship will also be pleased to take the
necessary measures, for insuring to all
such Corps the full benefit of these
instructions. —

Your

Your Lordship will perceive that the reasoning stated in this Letter necessarily includes Lieutenant Colonel Read, together with his whole Detachment, which I consider to be entitled to share in the captured property on every principle stated in this Letter.

With regard to the Grenadier Battalion of the Bombay Establishment I am not sufficiently acquainted with the nature of its claim to be able to decide the question, but the incompetency of the Prize Committee to entertain such a question, is established by the arguments already stated: your Lordship will therefore be pleased to report the foundation of this claim to me in Council, when I will decide it with all practicable dispatch.

I shall strongly recommend to His Majesty's Ministers to obtain His Royal confirmation of whatever measures your Lordship in Council may take for carrying these instructions into effect: and I am persuaded that I have only anticipated the effects of his Majesty's just, benevolent, and gracious disposition, in extending to every description of the gallant troops, who bore

bore a part in the Common labours and dangers of the late glorious Campaign in Mysoor, a liberal share of the ample, but just, Reward of their Meritorious service. —

To Sanction any proceeding, tending to restrict the beneficial operation of this Reward within narrow limits, or for partial purposes, would be incompatible with the spirit of uniform justice, and equal generosity, with which His Majesty has ever remunerated the exertions of the British forces in the various parts of the world, which have acknowledged the triumph of his Arms. —

The arguments for the rejection of the claim of Lieutenant Colonel Brown Detachment appear to be founded principally on an erroneous Statement of the Condition of the Army before Seringapatam, with regard to its provisions. Had the fact corresponded with the assertion, made by the Committee of Prize in the second paragraph of the 39.th Page of their address, it would have been my painfull duty to have made a severe and signal example of those Officers, who were entrusted with the management of the ample Supplies, furnished

for the campaign. Your Lordship however is aware that this part of the address is entirely unfounded in fact, as well as erroneous in argument. But if it should appear to your Lordship expedient to receive a detailed Statement of the condition of our Military Supplies at the close of the Siege of Seringapatam, you will I trust direct such an Enquiry to be instituted; and you will take such other measures as you may judge necessary for establishing in a public and official form, the facts already familiar to your Lordship, and to me.

I have the honor to be
My Lord
Your Lordship's most obedient
humble Servant
/Signed/ Mornington

Fort William
the 6th December 1799

By the Right Honorable the
Governor General.
/Signed/ G. H. Barlow
Chief Secy to the Govt.

Earl

Earl of Mornington

My Lord

The President of the Committee for Prize Affairs having been informed from the highest authority here, that there is an error of Calculation, in the 2d Paragraph, in Page 39 of their address to the Army, and that the Paragraph may be otherwise altered, I request your Lordship will be pleased to order the address sent you, to be returned to the President, under cover to the Agitant General, Fort St. George, that the Error may be corrected or removed. — I have the honor to be with great respect

My Lord

Your most obedient and
Most humble Servant
/Signed/ L. Lloyd M.G.
President Prize Commiss

Fort St. George
30th October
1799

a true Copy
/Signed/ G.H. Barlow
Chief Secy to the Govt

List of Packet to the Right Honble the Governor of Fort St. George.

Fort William

No. 1 Duplicate of a letter from the Right Honble the Governor General dated 6th December 1799

2 Printed address from the Committee for Prize affairs to the Army / referred to in the letter as No 1 /.

3 Duplicate Copy of a letter from Major General Floyd, President of the Prize Committee, addressed to the Earl of Mornington / referred to in the letter as No 2 /.

4 List of Packet

Fort William
the 7th of December 1799.

/ Signd / G. H. Barlow
Chief Secy to the Govt

Fort St. George 30th December 17

G. O. By Government

The Right Honble the Governor in Council having had under consideration a printed paper entitled an "address to the Army from the Committee for prize affairs" and having received the instructions of the Right

* Note This No has been forwarded by the Bank with the original Packet

Right Honble the Governor General on the
contents of that publication, deems it expe
dient to publish in General Orders the
resolutions passed in consequence by his
Lordship in Council.—

The Right Honble the Governor
General in transmitting to the Commander
in Chief, Lieutenant General Baird, his
Lordships orders in Council at Fort St George
for the distribution of the prize property
taken in Seringapatam to the allied armies
deemed it expedient to explain to the Com
mander in Chief the principles of the
law of Nations, by which all property
conquered from an enemy becomes the
property of the conquering State; and by
which all idea of positive right in the
Captors to property in a fort taken by
assault, is exploded. The Right Honble the
Governor General further deemed it necessary
to impress on the attention of the Comman
der in Chief His Majesty's Letters Patent,
founded on these principles, by which his
Majesty is graciously pleased to grant to
the Honble Company the Right of all
booty and plunder, which shall be taken
by their troops alone, reserving in express

terms

terms his Royal Prerogative of distribution
in such manner and proportions, as His
Majesty shall think fit in all cases, in
which the Royal Forces may have cooperated
with those of the Honble Company

The whole of the property thereby
captured at Seringapatam belonging abso-
lutely to the Crown, it is evident that the
Right of the Army to any part of that pro-
perty is derived from the order of the
Governor General in Council at Fort St. George
acting on his responsibility under his
general powers of Superintendance Control
and Direction over the whole Civil and
Military Government of the British
possessions in India, and that the appoint-
ment of a prize Committee in the case
in question necessarily supposed a previous
relinquishment on the part of the Crown,
or of an authority acting on behalf of the
Crown, of His Majesty's Right to the
captured property

In sanctioning the distribution
of the prize taken at Seringapatam the
Right Honble the Governor General considered
it a fundamental principle that the
benefits of the distribution should be
extended on the broadest grounds without

distinction

distinction or particularly, and with the
utmost possible latitude, to the whole allie
army in the field. — —

No Detachment, or Committee, of
the Army, could therefore possess a right t
dispose of the captured property or of any
part of it, or to decide the claims of
other Detachments of the army to a shar
in the participation, otherwise than accor
-ding to the rules and within the limits
prescribed by the authority of the Governme
which sanctioned the division of the spoil.

Independently of the question of righ
neither such a Committee, nor any part, n
even the whole body of the army could s
possess the information requisite to form
competent judgement of the degree of assista
furnished by the several branches of the
army respectively towards the combined
operations, which led to the Capture, the
Corps therefore, to which the address of th
Prize Committee is directed, are as incom
-petent to decide the claims of the Southe
Detachment, as the Committee itself; and
any attempt on the part of those Corps, or o
the Committee, to determine those claims w
would be an unwarrantable assumption of
power, equally repugnant to the principles
of justice, and to the rules of Subordination —

The

The necessary consequence of the Relinquishment of his Majesty's right to the Capture property, was the transfer of that right to such Corps, as were specifically named or described by the authority of the Governor General, acting on his Majesty's behalf.—

Those preliminary points having been adjusted, the province of the Prize Committee was clearly defined. That Committee possessed no further power than to apply the General rules and restrictions, under which the grant of the property was made, to individual cases. But this power could not be extended to the exclusion of entire Corps or detachments of the Army from the general participation, upon vague presumptions, expressed with unbecoming levity, that the Services of such Corps, or detachment, of the Army, had not co-operated in the common cause.—

The Crown, or the authority acting on behalf of the Crown, can solely be Competent to determine what Corps shall share in the property captured at Seringapatam, as solely vesting the right to dispose of the Captured property with the means of judging the Comparative exertions of the several Corps and those operations, which led to the Capture,

Under

Under these considerations, which should have suggested to the Prize Committee the necessity of submitting to the Governor General in Council the claim of Lieutenant Colonel Brown's Detachment, His Lordship previous to his departure from this Presidency expressed to the Commander in Chief his confident expectation that / adverting to the liberal principles prescribed in the order of His Lordship in Council and of the Commander in Chief / the just claims of Lieutenant Colonel Brown's Detachment would be admitted to a participation in the property, and the necessity of his Lordships further interference precluded. But the Governor General having been disappointed in these expectations, the Maxim of general justice, the necessity of preventing similar assumptions of power, and the duty of repressing every emotion of insubordination and irregularity require that the determination of the Right Honble the Governor General should be forthwith published, by which his Lordship is pleased to order and direct, that the order of the Governor General in Council at Fort St George, relative to the distribution of the prize captured at Seringapatam / comprehending all the Corps included in the orders of the Commander in Chief of the 5th May 1799 / shall be considered as the fundamental principle

for

for determining what Corps are entitled to share in the property Captured at Seringapatam and that the Detachments of Lieutenant Colonels Brown and Read as well as any other corps, to which the above mentioned order in Council may extend, shall be admitted accordingly to share in the Captured property.

The Right Honble the Governor in Council is therefore pleased to order and direct, that immediate measures shall be taken by the Commander in Chief (in virtue of the original powers granted to him) for proceeding any further distribution of the property captured at Seringapatam, until the claims of the several Corps and Detachments to share in that distribution shall have been decided by the Right Honble the Governor General in Council: For this purpose the Commander in Chief is further directed to prepare returns of the Corps and Detachments, to which prize property has been distributed, as well as of all the Corps and Detachments above the Ghauts on the 5th May 1799, or occupying at that time Garrisons or posts, Captured from Tippoo Sultan during the late Campaign.

The

The Right Honble the Govern.
General in Council is persuaded that His
Lordship has only anticipated the effects
of His Majesty's just, benevolent and gracious
disposition in extending to every description
of the gallant Troops, who bore a part in
the common labours and dangers of the
late glorious Campaign in Mysoor, a
liberal share of the ample, but just,
Reward of their Meritorious service. To
Sanction therefore any proceeding tending
to restrict the beneficial operation of the
Reward within narrow limits or for part
purposes, would be incompatible with the
spirit of uniform justice and equal gener-
osity, with which His Majesty has ever
remunerated the exertions of the British
forces in the various parts of the world
which have acknowledged the triumph
of His Arms.—

The Prize Committee having
stated arguments for the rejection of the
claims of Lieutenant Colonel Browne's
Detachment, which appear to be principal
founded on an erroneous Statement of the
condition of the army before Seringapatam
with regard to its provisions,— The Right
Honble the Governor in Council deems it

necessary

necessary to publish his Lordships strongest disapprobation of the indecency and disrespect of this part of the publication: But the assertion being at direct variance with the fact, His Lordship judges it sufficient to apprize the Army, that the Accounts of the public Officers of Custody before Seringapatam contain authentic proof, that the passage abovementioned in the address of the Prize Committee is no less erroneous in argument than unfounded in fact.—

Having thus published the orders of the Right Honble the Governor General on the distribution of the property captured at Seringapatam, it is the further painfull duty of the Governor in Council to remark the irregular and disrespectfull distribution, as well as the dangerous and reprehensible tendency of the address of the Prize Committee, which is nothing less than to invite a considerable proportion of the Officers of the Army to discuss questions of great public importance, respecting which it is their duty to abide implicitly by the decision of their Superiors. The Governor in Council

therefore

therefore publishes to the Army his most marked disapprobation of the address of the Prize Committee; and absolutely prohibits its further circulation. His Lordship in Council also prohibits under the strongest injunctions the publication in future of any addresses to the Army, or to any Division of it, by any person or persons whatever, without the previous Sanction of His Lordship or of the Governor General in Council.

By Order of the Right Honble the Governor in Council.

(Signed) J. Webbe
Chief Secy. to Govt.

To Major General Floyd

Sir,

I am directed to acquaint you that while the Contents of a printed paper entitled an "address to the Army from the Committee for Prize affairs," transmitted to Fort William by the Adjutant General of the Army on this Establishment were under the consideration of the

Right

Right Honble the Governor General, His Lordship received a letter from you, in your capacity of President of the Prize Committee requesting, that the Governor General would cause the address to be returned to you under cover to the Adjutant General at Fort St. George.

It has been the painfull duty of the Governor in Council to observe the substance of this address, and the manner in which it has been published, transmitted to the Governor General, and subsequently recalled.

If you, as President of the Prize Committee, deemed it necessary to make any application to the Governor General, it ought to have been previously submitted to the Commander in Chief at Fort St. George for that purpose, through which Channell it would have been regularly brought by the Governor in Council at this Presidency under the consideration of the Governor General in Council at Fort William, pronounced that such an application should have been deemed unexceptionable

But the irregular manner, in which this letter has been transmitted by you to the Governor General, is the

last

least exceptionable part of this extraordi-
transaction; for the Governor in Council
has observed with the utmost degree of
Surprize that in your letter the Governor
General is desired to return the printed
address not to the President of the Prize
Committee but to a third person; and
this person is the principal person o
the Staff of this Establishment.

It is extremely irksome to the
Governor in Council to be under the
necessity of expressing his Lordships dis-
approbation to an Officer of your rank
after so long a Service under this Presiden
in the high and important Stations whi
you have filled: but considering your let
to the Governor General to be no less
irregular and disrespectfull to his autho
than the general nature of the printed
address to be highly dangerous and
reprehensible; the Right Honble the
Governor in Council feels it a duty, which h
owes to his own Station as well as to that
of the Governor General of India, to record and
to Signify to you His Lordships most absolute
disapproval of your conduct.

I have the honor to be &c &c
Fort St George
30th December 1799. (Signed) J Webbe Chief Secy to Govt

To

To Lieutenant Colonel Agnew
Adjutant General of the Army

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honble the Governor in Council to inform you that the Governor General has received under your official Signature a paper entitled an "address to the army from the "Committee for Prize affairs," which paper appears to have been transmitted to the Governor General under a Cover addressed to His Lordship, and superscribed "Service" with your official Signature unaccompanied by any letter.

You are aware that any direct official Communication from the Adjutant General of the Army of Fort St George to the Governor General at Fort William, respecting matters of a public nature, would, under any circumstances, be at least irregular: the address in question relates to subjects of great public importance, I am therefore directed to call upon you for an explanation of the apparent irregularity and disrespect of enclosing such a paper under a Cover addressed immediately to the Governor General, unaccompanied by any letter notifying the purposes for which the paper

was

was transmitted, the authority from which it proceeded, or that by which you may have been empowered to become the channel of its circulation.

While the contents of this paper were under the consideration of the Governor General, His Lordship received a letter directly from Major General Floyd, in his capacity of President of the Prize Committee requesting that the paper might be returned to him under a cover to the Adjutant General at Fort St. George: it appears therefore that the printed address to the army has been circulated under your official signature of Adjutant General to the army on this Establishment. I am further directed therefore to ascertain from you the considerations which have induced you, for whose character the Governor General has expressed his esteem, and whose public situation demands the most exemplary conformity to the principles of official regularity and Military discipline, to become instrumental to the circulation of a paper utterly inconsistent with either

I am Sir
Fort St. George your most Obedient Servant
30th Dec. 1799 (Signed) Webbe
Chief Secy to Govt
President &c

President's Minute in Council 16th January 1800

In the minute, which I entered on the 29th Ultimo, I acquainted the Board, that I had communicated my Sentiments on the subject of the publication of the Prize Committee in a Separate dispatch to the Earl of Mornington. —

Having received his Lordship's reply to my Communications on this subject and on a similar publication by Lieutenant Colonel Read, it becomes necessary to record the whole of this Correspondence. —

The Board will observe that the Governor General has been pleased to leave to my option either to record his Lordship's letter dated December 26th 1799 in the Secret Department or to consider it entirely as a private Communication. —

Were it possible for me to suffer the dictates of private feelings alone to influence my conduct on this occasion, I could have no hesitation in adopting the latter alternative. But as the Records furnish at present no explanation whatever of the Conduct of this Government, which does not imply a neglect of official vigilance in its head, it becomes a painfull but an important

duty

President's Minute in Council before the Board copies of this & the subsequent correspondence with the Governor General on the subject of the Publication to be published in memory

duty to justify the public character of this Government by furnishing a full explanation, which can in no manner be done with so much candor and impartiality as by recording the whole of the documents, which relate to the subject.—

In adopting this indispensable measure I have the satisfaction to reflect, that a Record in the Secret Department involves none of those injurious consequences to the Military authority of the Commander in Chief, which in this unfortunate transaction it has been the leading principle of my conduct to avert.—

/Signed/ Clive

16th January 1772.

To the Right Honble

The Earl of Mornington K.P.

Governor General &c. &c. &c.

My Lord,

When I had the honor of addressing your Lordship, on the 28th October last, on the subject of an address from the Prize Committee to the army, I thought it

communicati

communication I had made to the Commander in Chief sufficient to prevent any further publication of that nature, but having been disappointed in this expectation, I deem it my duty to bring the whole of this affair under your Lordships notice —

The publication of official confidential correspondence with his Superiors by an Officer of Rank, entrusted with an important command, is a case so unprecedented, that the punishment of that breach of duty might on the first view appear a difficult, but as the direct tendency of such Conduct subverts the confidence, necessarily placed by the Government in Officers of Rank, and involves the most serious consequences to all degrees of Subordination, I can have no doubt that the Offence would be treated in a manner, suited to its grossness, before a Tribunal of Honor But under the peculiar circumstances of the case; involved as it is in considerations of private property, It is a question, whether the punishment of the offence should not be secured by the immediate exercise of the power of Government —

It was with the greatest Mortifi-
cation therefore I observed in the publication
of the Prize Committee, that Colonel
Brown had been so unmindful of the
relation, in which he stood to the Comman-
der in Chief, and of all the rules of Profes-
sional delicacy and Sentiment, as to pub-
lish the confidential letters of Lieutenant Genera
Burrie. But I have since felt the deepest
concern and indignation in learning, that
Lieutenant Colonel Read has not only been
unrestrained from a similar impropriety,
but has published, in a subsequent address
to the Army, a secret and confidential let
of your Lordships Private Secretary upon a
point of the utmost delicacy and importa
during the late Campaign. —

as the publication of the Priz
Committee had been circulated without any
communication to me, so I had no knowledg
of Colonel Read's address, until this day
although both had been, previous to
their circulation, submitted to the Com-
= mander in Chief. —

If I had followed the first dictates of my duty on the discovery of Colonel Brown's publication, I ought to have ordered that Officer into arrest for an unofficerlike breach of confidence reposed in him, but the publication had previously been submitted to the consideration of the Commander in Chief and issued to the world under his Excellency's sanction expressed to the President of the Prize Committee. Under these circumstances it was impossible for me to impeach the conduct of those Officers without directly implicating that of the Commander in Chief himself, and it would have been nugatory to charge them with neglect of discipline, while their defence would have been sheltered under the consent of General Harris. —

Thus situated it was more prudent in my judgement, with respect to the public service, and more delicate towards the Commander in Chief, to take means in concert with himself for the recal of the offensive publication. On the first perusal of it I confess that the misstatement of facts with respect to the situation of the Army before

Seringapatam

Seringapatam principally attracted my attention, but a more deliberate consideration of the general principles and tendency of the paper convinced me of the necessity of its entire Suppression. Before however my intention could be carried into effect the address of Colonel Read was circulated, and although it has but this day been put into my hands, and that by a Private channel by its date, that it must have been issued soon after my letter of the 21st October to the Commander in Chief.

As this paper also was previously submitted to the Commander in Chief, I feel myself restrained by the same considerations of inconvenience in respect to the Commander in Chief from taking those measures against Lieutenant Colonel Read, which, under other circumstances, I should have felt it my indispensable duty to do. But however warm my resentment is against the peculiar indiscretion of the last publication, the grounds upon which I could take public notice of it, are precisely the same as those, which I stated in respect to Colonel Brown, and

as the one could not be brought to trial without the other, the length of time, which has been suffered to elapse might attach to such a measure at this late period considerable appearance of indecision and inconsistency in the proceedings of this Government, in addition to the inconvenience I have stated with regard to the Commander in Chief.

Under a strict definition of the relation in which his Excellency stands to the Government, he is unquestionably accountable to it for his public conduct, and it would be recanting to its own duty, if this responsibility should not be exacted on every proper occasion. But I have no doubt your Lordship will concur with me in the private delicacy and public expediency of my refraining from placing the General's conduct in a degrading point of view to the Army under this Presidency.

I have already stated the reasons, why a public enquiry into the conduct of Colonels Brown and Read must necessarily involve that of the Commander in Chief; and for the same reason any public censure, which I might judge it expedient to pass on the

publication

publications must extend to Lieutenant
General Harris. Under these impressions, I
trust, your Lordship will consider my
Motives for making a private communica
tion in the first instance to the Comman
der in Chief; but if I could have foreseen the
result as the present from that mode
of proceeding, It would have been my
public duty, which I should have discharg
ed without hesitation, to have brought the
whole affair under public cognizance.

Your Lordship will be surprized
that these papers should have received
the Sanction of the Commander in Chief
without any communication to me, and you
will be more surprized that they should
have been so long published, without
coming to my knowledge. The fact contain
too strong an imputation of the want of
vigilance for me to defend it. But although
I can only regret at this late period that
should have escaped those channels,
through which it ought to have reached
me, I yet feel that it is necessary to vindi
the authority of Government and check
growth

growth of this evil, for though I have so hitherto confined my observations to the breach of confidential correspondence, as being the only part of the conduct of Colonels Brown and Read, which could be made cognizable by a Court Martial, I beg your Lordship to be assured, that I have a just sense of the unmilitary principle on which these addresses have been dispensated to the Army, as well as of the dangerous irritation, which the matter of them is calculated to produce. —

Under the explanations however, which I have given, I still think it ineligible, that the measures to be pursued should now originate with me; and although nothing can be further from my wish, and intention than to throw on your Lordship any part of the responsibility, which attaches to myself, I have not a doubt, that your Lordship will consider the relation, which the Commander in Chief on the Coast bears to this Government to be very different from that which he bears to the Supreme Board,

J.F.

If therefore your Lordship should concur
in my opinion, that a less shock will
be given to the public authority of the
Commander in Chief by your Lordship's
interference from Bengal than by my
referring the consideration of the subject
I submit to your Lordship's consideration
whether orders should not be sent for bring-
ing Colonels Brown and Read to a Court
Martial for their unofficerlike breach of
confidence in the discovery of secret orders,
or considering the delicacy of the case, that
they should be suspended from the Comp.
Service by an immediate act of the
Government.

In the meanwhile I shall think
it my duty to call on the Commander
in Chief in the most urgent manner
to take whatever measures may be
practicable for him to suppress the
further circulation of these inflammatory
addresses.

I shall not conclude this letter
without expressing to your Lordship my
unfeigned concern, that an affair of so
much importance should have arisen
at

at so great a height without my knowledge, but I trust, that, under the circumstances stated, your Lordship will consider it to be a cause of Regret, but not a diminution of that cordiality, which I have invariably felt in the execution of that part of my public duties connected with your Lordships administration. —

My Lord, I have the honor to be

Fort St George
17 December 1799

your Lordship's
most faithful Servant
/Signed/ Clive

P.S.

I enclose a copy of Colonel Read's paper which, though dated the 29th October, I find was not issued for some time after that period; and a very offensive passage in the Postscript of it proves that the issue of it must have been subsequent to the recal of the publication of the prize Committee

true Copy
/Signed/ M. Wilks
Mil.y Sec.y to the Governor

To

To Lieutenant General Harris
Commander in Chief and
To all the Officers of the Army
Employed in the Conquest of My

Gentlemen

1 The Committee for prize affai
having first published an address referri
to your decision certain claims to prize
property, in consequence of the apprehen
it entertains that the distribution it has
made may entail a law suit, and its not
having inserted any representation re tha
of my Detachment, or any document, relati
thereto, among the papers it has remitt
to that address, by way of enabling you
judge of the claims in dispute, I am con
the necessity of stating the circumstance
which in my opinion, entitle me, and m
Detachment, to a participation of prize

2 I regret the occasion, which obliges
me to be the narrator of my own trans
actions, but when deprived of their ri
right, the Officers and men who sustained
my endeavours in the field, have an
irresistable title to my support, and

whether

whether inclined to oppose, or submit to injuries done myself, I never will decline or avoid whatever duty requires of me, as the means of obtaining justice to others. I might indeed employ an abler pen to illustrate, and magnify our services by force of argument, and elegance of diction, but addressing men of an honorable profession, I disdain the imposing on their judgements, if it were possible, by any artful story, and desire not to impress you with a disposition more favorable, than may be expected, from a plain state of facts.

3 Owing to circumstances sufficiently known, I was employed several months, before the Army was assembled for the invasion of Mysore, in preparing for hostilities, and early in February I began to form my detachment. The following extract of a letter from the Commander in Chief to the Right Honble the Governor General dated the 23rd February, sufficiently defines the nature, and importance of my occupations.

"

4 "At a very early period Lieutenan
"Colonel Read the Superintendent of the
"Ceded districts, was entrusted to make
"provision for the wants of the army,
"in various articles of Supply, and he has
"continued to fulfil this important duty,
"with such activity and zeal, as to afford
"a well grounded hope of my being enable
"through his means, to move forward
"into the Enemy's country, with an ample
"Stock of every necessary article of provision

5 "I had such perfect reliance on
"the strict integrity and honor of Lieutenan
"Colonel Read, that I felt no hesitation in
"delegating to that Officer, full authority
"take such measures, on every occasion, as
"might appear to him the best, for expedit
"the public service, to use his discretion
"in the allotment of troops for the seven
"garrisons, in purchasing grain, in hiring
"Cattle and Carts, in advancing money
"to Boyanies &c. and upon all points
"connected with public supplies, in as full
"a manner, as if he had received special
"authority for each Separate measure." —

These

6 These powers were confirmed by the Right Honble the Governor General, and to give the greater scope and efficacy to my exertions, his Lordship honored me, with the following Commission.—

7 "Having the utmost confidence in your Zeal and integrity and relying on your abilities to execute the trust given you in charge, & with benefit to the public Service, and to the happiness and comfort of the Inhabitants I do hereby appoint you to superintend the Management of the affairs of all the Countries depending on the Mysore Government, & which shall be reduced by the Armies of the Company and also of the Polygars, Zemindars &c., who may receive the Seals of Government you will exert yourself to encourage the inhabitants to return to their habitations, and to engage in the cultivation of the Country— You will issue such proclamations throughout the districts, as may appear necessary for the purpose of executing the instructions which I have given to you — and you will publish my proclamation of this date, to all the Inhabitants of the districts thus given you in charge."—

Signed "Mornington

23rd February

Thos

8 This was accompanied by a proclam-
-tion in the name of all the Polegars, Zemin-
-dars, and other inhabitants, who should recei-
the Company's Cowle, commanding them
to obey all such orders as I might think
proper to issue for the purpose of executin
the instructions I had received from his
Lordship, and in order to give a further
appearance of protection to the inhabitant
and support to my endeavours, the Comman-
in Chief afterwards published one, of which
the following is an extract —,

9 "There being the views of the allie-
"some not to make war upon the defenceles
"inhabitants of this Country, but to receive
"you under their protection, and promise
"you perfect Security under their Governm-
"To facilitate the carrying these intention
"into execution, Lieutenant Colonel Read,"
"same officer under whose administration
"you experienced last war the benefits of a
"British Government, is again appointed to
"superintend the affairs of all the district
"dependant on Mysore; that may be reduc
"by the Armies of the English, and as a
"further indication thereof, Cowle flags sh-
"be distributed over the Country and safe
guard

"guards sent to all the villages in the
"vicinity of the armies, to secure the inha-
-bitants from depredation"

10 "These measures being taken, and the
"allied armies sufficiently powerful to
"afford all the districts in their rear
"effectual protection, you will remain in
"your Villages, proceed in the Cultivation
"of your lands and enjoy all the blessings
"of profound peace"—

11 "Benefiting so considerably by the
liberal policy of the allies, it will become
a duty on your part to merit their pro-
-tection, by serving them as obedient subjects
and rendering them the dues of the Circar,
in the exaction of which will be evinced
that moderation and justice which dis-
-tinguish the British from all the other
nations of Europe in their conduct towards
the Natives of India.—

12 "The general good of the people under
them being the study of their Government,
it evidently follows that whoever shall
render them particular services during
the present war, such as aiding Colonel
Read, in ascertaining the Resources of the

Province

public Revenue, in regulating the Police,
in procuring Supplies for the Army, or in
giving intelligence of the enemy's designs
may be sure of Rewards suitable to the
importance and success of their endeavours.

/Signed/ George Washington

13 To ensure the desired effect from these
proclamations no time was lost in prepar-
-ing a Number of Copies, and circulating
them, with Civil Flags, among our friends &
the enemys country.

14 However sensible of my predicament
in desiring to be made the subject of your
contemplation, the avowed design of this
address demands, that I request you to
consider the foregoing papers as a proof of
how much depended on my single exertions
and how much was expected from them—
I acted with a belief that the success of the
war depended upon them, and with a
perfect confidence, that I could employ the
ample means afforded me, with certain
effect.— In that confidence, I not only unde-
-took to provide for the Army in general
but to assist every Department in particular
and as all can witness who stood in need of
assistance every individual— Forward

was

was the word, and it was obeyed in every
instance — No obstacle with God our efforts. —

15 Being directed to provide as much
of every article as possible, one of which was
money, and it being necessary from the state
of our treasury to apportion things according
to the wants of the army, I was desirous of
embracing the whole business of supply, and
requested of the Secretary to the Commander in
Chief, a statement of the army's wants, that
my endeavours might be regulated accordingly —
His answer dated Vaniambaddy the 22d February
was as follows. —

16 "It has not been possible to form any
"satisfactory Statement or even any rough esti-
"mate of the quantities of every kind of food
"bringing on with the army — Large sums of
"Money have been advanced to Banjaries to
"the Northward, and we have been assured that
"they would join, but out of 53000 engaged
"by the Resident at Hydrabad alone, not
"above 1500 have yet made their appearance" —

17 "The principal Bullock Agent, not-
"withstanding his great exertions, found
"himself deficient to the number of nearly
"7000 Carriage Cattle, — His information led
"us to believe that he might be able to
"complete the Departments before we moved
"from Vellore, but such was the disappointment

that

"that on the evening before our movement
"the General was under the necessity of
"leaving 3000 bags of Rice upon the ground,
"and turning that number of Bullocks
"over to the Commissary General of Ordnance
"and Stores – you see therefore the uncer-
=tained state of our Supplies."

18 "The quantity of Rice in the Commissa-
"of grain's custody with the number of me
"entitled to receive it, when joined, could have
"been given to you in a Stand, but that als
"has been subject to fluctuation."

19 "It appears that by a Rough estima
the numbers will stand as follows".

| | |
|---|---|
| "Europeans | 5000 |
| "Native Troops, Gun Lascars & Pioneers | 15055 |
| "Colonel Roberts' Detachment | 5883 |
| "Late French Corps and Major Grant | 6000 |
| | 31938 |

20 "The Commissary of Grain has
"got 12,000 Bullock loads of Rice, or 864,000
"lbs, which at one lbs per man per
"day gives 27 days Rice, and consequently
"at half a Seer per man 54 days – I
"calculate that we may start from

By this

"Rykota the 4th March. It must therefore be
"provided for March ..... 31 days
" april ..... 30
" May ..... 31
" Total ..... 92 Days at least
"you know however that unless the followers
"of an Army are fed as well as the fighting men
"the consequences may be serious - When I
"therefore said that too much could not be
"done, I said so from a conviction that Slavery
"a war is in any Shape the worst sort
"of economy".—

21 My Detachment being formed, and equipped and the period of hostility approaching, I moved out early in February to the Neighborhood of Cauvery patam, to check any incursion of the enemy thro the Polcode valley and soon after advanced some corps to Baramungle and Rykota to protect large quantities of rice collecting there for the consumption of the army, while it might lie encamped in the Neighborhood of those places.—

22 When the army marched from Baramungle I advanced with the Bonjaries from Kisnguery to Rykota, and arriving there on the 4th March, I was present at Head Quarters, when instructions were drawing up for Major Kuppage, who was to proceed

Majr.

next Morning with a part of my Detachm.
in the enemy's Country, to take possess.
of Mechelly droog, and the other hill fort
in that vicinity. — He instantly receive
intimation of it, & expressed from an imp.
Natural to a Soldier, my wish to comma
the party myself, but the Commander
in Chief objected, giving as a reason, th.
other matters I had in charge, and a.
moments Recollection convinced me my
request was inadmissible. —

23 While the Army remained at Ch
it was supplied with Rice from the Sto
I had collected there for the purpose, a
at Marching with 8 days or 16 days Ric
per man, which was as much as
they could carry on their backs, an.
by which the field stock was preserv
entire. —

24 The Army entered the Enem
Country in four divisions on the 5.th
6.th 7.th and 8.th March. The part of my
Detachment under Major Cuppage on
the 5.th the right and left wings on th
two following days and on the 8.th the
Nizams Contingent, followed by the
remaining part of my Detachment,
under myself, which covered the Benjara

On

On the 9th we arrived at Kelamungle, and as a matter that may be thought material in establishing our right to prize it may be here observed, that the whole of my Detachment was then encamped with, and forming a part of the grand army, above the Ghauts and the Enemy's country

25 The Commander in Chief having made a previous requisition to meet all the Poligars and other disaffected chiefs in Tippoo Country, who had applied to me for Cowles, I waited upon him with them on the evening of the 9th when he received them with great courtesy, and reciprocal promises passed, of cooperation on their part, and support on ours.—

26 The supplies I sent on with the army at that time, consisted of 9600 Carriage bullocks, about 20,000 Benjaries, and other discriptions of dealers in grain, and I had previously delivered over to different departments, 2000 Slaughter cattle, 23,000 Sheep, and several other articles.— The carriage bullocks were loaded with 142 garce of Rice, which at the rate it was issued in Camp, was 45 days food for 30,000 fighting men, the number

number sixth on for estimated of their Rann
and the Benjarries carried about 15,000 bags
different articles, which were estimated a
Months provision for 40,000 Camp followers.

27 On the 10th March the army move
on from Kelamungle, and the next day Sheto
with my Detachment to Rykota, where I was
delayed for some articles of equipment, abou
a week, after which I took the field again

28 My instructions like those of Lieutenan
Colonel Brown were in very general term
but the grand object of our operations "the
"collecting of Supplies" was clearly pointed out
as that to which all our endeavours were
to be invariably directed — The line, by whi
they might be forwarded to the army, woul
be discovered, it was expected, by the occurren
of the campaign, and it was supposed to
depend on the side of Seringapatam which
might be attacked — "It was thought not
"improbable that I might be enabled to
"advance with the Supplies on the North si
"of the Cauvery, and to seize on Bankanelly
"or some other post, for favoring the commun
"cation with the army, should it be operat
"on the North side of that River, but if th
"siege should be undertaken on the South
"side of it, the line of communication by

Cauvery proved

"Caveripoorum or Guzzelhully it was thought might
"be found the most eligible whether from the
"Coimbatore Country or the Baramahl — In
"the latter case the Commander in Chief
"had a full assurance that Lieutenant Colonel
"Brown and I would be mutually induced
"to sacrifice every personal wish or gratifi-
-cation to the convenience which might be
"derived from our occasionally reinforcing each
"other, or even uniting both our Detachments
"should such a junction appear to us to
"promise any real public advantage" —

29 Our plan of operations being thus left discretionary, I resolved upon the reduction of the Countries to the Northward of the Cauvery as they were by far the most productive, and in draining all their resources to the carrying on the war, as well till the posture of affairs, might determine by what route the should be forwarded to the Army — Having the support of all the Zemindars, and the confidence of the inhabitants, which they evinced by remaining in their Villages, and supplying the Detachment with provisions wherever I went, it was obvious that the taking a few forts Garisoned by Tippoo's troops, and the expulsion of his Amuldars were all that was required to give us entire

possession

possession of the country, and such were the effects of the example made of them at Dolay which struck a Terror that the Garrison of every other place I went against, either Surrendered or fled. —

30 Such was my prospect of success in this quarter, when I received the following letter from the Secretary to the Commander in Chief dated the 24th. March. — "As the attack of Seringapatam "will be conducted from the South side of the "Cauvery, the Commander in Chief recommends "the Cauvery-puram pass, and the River for your "line of approach, with the supplies for the "Army." I received this at Baithmanglum on the 31st March, when I immediately marched back to the Barramahl — The road I had marched being very bad, I preferred returning by Peddanyggoorgum, that I might get possession of that place which surrendered.

31 My success in that encouraged me to keep the footing I had got on the North side of the River, as that might prove of great consequence, and I appointed Amildars who by raising a body of Matchlock peons, with a few horse, and the assistance they got from our friends the Poligars were enabled to maintain and extend their authority — I left them with the most positive injunctions to use all their means in laying waste all the

at every place of Security, in the vicinity the Bullocks return from the westward for it, within a month or two at furthest.

32 As appears by a letter I wrote the Commander in Chief from Kistnagerry the 12th April, I was then in Readiness to March from Cauvery patam, and expected to take with me the following articles of Supply

| | |
|---|---|
| Casks of Arrack | 110 |
| Draft Cattle of the Bullock Agents | 1270 |
| Carriage Cattle of his | 985 |
| Cawlay Bullocks | 896 |
| Carriage Cattle hired by myself | 1500 |

All of which were loaded with Rice, Grain and other Articles

| | |
|---|---|
| Slaughter Cattle | 3000 |
| Sheep | 25,000 |
| Company's Benjarries | 6000 |
| Nizams Benjarries | 27,000 |
| Palankeen Boys | 100 |
| Medicines | 2 Carts, and 150 Bullock loads |
| Pagodas | 1,70,000 |

33 The whole of the above was in motion and every thing done to expedite. But the Arrack was chiefly in Casks too large for the difficult Roads I had to March; they were coming on in divisions, some of which were only half way from Madras,

and the carts being only hired to Kittaguny
carriage was to provide for them. — all
the droves and flock of Cattle and Sheep
were very much scattered, and it was
impossible to keep them together, or get
them on quickly. The Bengaries were also
ordered — the distributing guards to bring
on every description of convoy, was all that
could be done to hasten them, and as there
was no danger to be apprehended in the
rear, that was done, to such an extent, that
I believe the corps in line were sometimes
reduced to half their strength, — My greatest
anxiety being to get into the pass, that I
might set to work upon it, I left every
thing to follow, after having provided as
mentioned, and pushed on with the main
body of my detachment to Cauvery province
where I arrived the 22d April, — The same
day I received the following letter from the
Secretary to the Commander in Chief,
dated the 14th April. —

"General Floyd will march in a
"few days with the whole of the Cavalry,
"and some Infantry Corps, towards the
"Cauvery province pass, to bring your Convoy
"and Bengaries to camp, and the Commander
in

"in Chief directs that you occupy some ad-
"vance position at the head of the pass, and
"do not advance from it till you are joined by
"Lieutenant Colonel Brown, or by the divi-
"sion of the Army under General Floyd."

35 Expecting from the certainty of the Enemy's knowing the object of my detachment and the route it had taken, that if possible, he would send a considerable force to oppose me, and uncertain of General Floyd's situation I resolved on the arrangement contained in the subjoined letter to the Secretary to Government.—

36 "Finland to enter the pass without
"delay, and though I conceive I may do so with
"great safety, I deem it expedient to prepare for
"adverse occurrences, by leaving one of my corps
"and two of Major Grant's Companies in Ar-
"kaweypoorum, all the Treasure, Medicines,
"and heavy baggage in it, and all the sticks
"round it, covered by the Nizam's horse, which
"including the parties that have lately
"joined may be about two thousand.")

37 "Leaving all these incumbrances
"behind I mean to proceed with my Infantry
"and Guns up the pass, as fast as may be
"practicable.— By all accounts that will

lie

"be an arduous undertaking, the road being
"described as uncommonly difficult, there
"being no water for 20 or 30 miles, and the
"weather being intensely hot. —

38 "I am sorry to learn the first division
"of Graeth was only expected as to day at
"Daraunpoory, that 15 of the 50 Casks had
"been left behind, owing to the low state
"of the Bullocks, and that 40 left Bellore
"only yesterday, from which I apprehend
"that 25 will be all we shall be able
"to take on with us. — But I expect the
"Communication will be so completely
"established that all may follow with the
"escorts, as the Garrisons on the road can
"spare." —

39 "The next day Senate General Floyd
"to this effect, being informed from Head
"Quarters of your destination, I take the
"earliest opportunity of advising you of my
"situation — I arrived here yesterday with an
"immense convoy of Supplies for the Army,
"and having made arrangements for its
"present Security, intend to proceed with
"my Corps of Infantry for the purpose of
"clearing the Pass, which is said to be
"impracticable for Carriages — I nevertheless
"expect to be at Candhully which I under-
"stands at the head of the Pass by the

end

end of the Month, and that Lieutenant Colonel Brown will arrive about that time at this place".—

40 "I state these circumstances, that, "being acquainted with the actual occasion "of the Army, for Supplies, and with the "strength and position of the enemy, you "may determine, whether it be most "advisable for me to bring on convoy with "the expedition that may be practicable "or to let it remain at Caseny Poorum "to be brought on to the head of the pass "by Lieutenant Colonel Brown".—

41 Having proceeded about 25 Miles through the pass, found it perfectly Secure from incursions of the enemy on either side, and a sufficiency of water in it, Ordered on the whole of my Convoy without waiting for General Floyds instructions, and having after immense labor reached Mauckbully near the head of the pass, on the 27th I halted my detachment for the benefit of the Cattle — The next day I rode to Coodbully, where General Floyd was encamped, and the wants of the Army becoming of course the subject of our conversation, I was concerned to learn that by what he had heard at leaving camp, the troops were only victuated up to

the

the 6th which was confirmed by the follow
letter I received from the Right Honorable
the Governor Generals Secretary dated the
29th April. -

42 "I am directed by the Right Honble
"the Governor General to acquaint you th
"the Commander in Chief having stated
"her Lordship, that if the Bengaries, with you
"convoy do not reach Camp before the 6th Ma
"the Army will be without provisions, her
"Lordship directs you to use every possible
"effort to advance with the utmost speed
"to Seringapatam, with such number of
"Bengaries, or with such quantities of Rice
"in whatever manner carried, as you may
"find practicable to convey to that place
"the delay of a day in the progress of your
"convoy may occasion, not only the failure
"of the whole expedition, but the loss of
"the Noble Army under General Harris's
"Command - You will see the necessity of
"Secrecy, and discretion, on the subject of the
"Army's distress for grain." -

43 The loss of a single day under
such an alarming circumstance, was
conceived to be of such momentous importance
that it was in contemplation for General Ha
decision,

division, and my Detachment to march from Honor on the 2d with such part of my convoy as had arrived, but the General thinking that to march without Colonel Brown, who arrived at Cauverypoorum on the 1st, would incur some risk, and that by Marching with him, we should take on a full Supply, and full security, also a Valuable force for further operation, he resolved to wait for him till the 3d when he might certainly expect him. On the 7th General Floyd's division the two Detachments and the whole of the convoy, excepting some casks of Arrack, moved on from Honor, and on the 12th we reached Seringapatam

44 The fall of that place would of course have secured our brave troops against the distress apprehended from a want of rice, but my peculiar charge having led me to make the enquiry, I found that though there had been reason to suppose from the Commissary's report, that in consequence of a great deficiency in the public Store, the army was only victualled up to the 6th May, it afterwards proved, that including what had been delivered

by

by my people, there was sufficient to last till the 18th. By the Superintendent of supplies accounts, it appears they actually delivered into his custody during the siege, 501 Garce and 73 Marcalls of grain, & together with 5 Garce and 96 Marcalls of salt, which are provision for 30,000 men a Month, or reckoning backwards from the 18th May to the 18th April, exclusive of 9128 bags which agreeable to his direction the benjanies deliver into the different bazars under his Superintendence. — I leave the striking inference to be made by my Readers.

45 The great deficiency of the public Store, was owing to the early expenditure of the Country supply brought by the Nizams people, which had occasioned such a rise in the price of provisions as was sufficient to tempt our Bullock people to embezzle the grain in their charge — But as it was necessary the Nizams people and our own followers should all be fed, and whatever was embezzled went

to

to their Support, it may be said that nothing
was lost" The obvious remark is, that as
the Commissary's Supply was originally
no more than 54 days Rice for the 4
fighting men, that which my people
procured was sufficient, not only for our
own consumption, but for that of the
Nizam's Army, and consequently it was
more than expected, or had been deemed
necessary to ensure the object of the 4
expedition. —

46 As proved by the event, it was sufficient to have lasted a fortnight longer than was required, and my arriving a week before it could have been consumed, had the Army been obliged by a continuance of the Siege, to rely on what it had for its Subsistence, warranted fully the dependance of the Commander in Chief on my exertions, and shews that nothing but the interposition of providence in favor of the place could have prevented its fall. —

47 The Sultan being no more, all his family in our power, and Mysore become a British province, I was ordered away

with

with my Detachment from Seringapatam
five days after my arrival there, to
take possession of the forts still garrison
by the Mysore troops, to receive the
Submission of the inhabitants, and to
establish the Company's Government
over the Country — I had likewise
in direction to open the Communication
with the Carnatic, and to continue my
endeavours in collecting Supplies for the
Army — Thus was I prevented from
bearing any part in the measures that
were taken a few days after, for the
management of Prize affairs. —

48 The facts proposed being stated, the
next matter of enquiry is their relative
importance compared with other transac-
tions in the prosecution of the war,
and having the opinions of two persons
for whom, I am sure, you entertain great
respect, I shall do myself the pleasure
of subjoining them. —

49 The first was conveyed to me
by the Secretary to Government in con-
sequence of my having requested leave
to resigning Official situations, and Pet-

to

to Europe for the recovery of my health,
and in these words "it only remains for
"the Governor General in Council to
"express his Sense of the loss, which the
"Government is about to sustain by your
"departure, and to add to the numerous
"other testimonies of your indefatigable and
"honorable exertions for the public good,
"that of his Lordship, to your highly meri-
"torious Services, throughout the late war
"with Tippoo Sultaun."

50 The next was published in G.O. dated the 11th "Request and to this effect"
"The Commander in Chief feels infinite
"satisfaction in the present occasion for
"offering his testimony, of the distinguished
"merits of an Officer, to whose acknowledged
"abilities, and unremitting efforts, the army
"is so deeply indebted for its uninterrupted
"success - although the valuable aid derived
"to the operations of the troops from the
"large and timely Supplies of provisions fur-
"nished by Lieutenant Colonel Read's
"resources, and personal labors, are too
"generally known to require a public
"record, the Commander in Chief would be
"wanting to his own feelings, did he refrain

from

from expressing the high sense which he entertains of such important services."

51 Now Gentlemen it remains to be advised, how to appreciate these acknowledged services, or apply them to the scale of right to participate of the Reward, which the Army employed in the conquest of Mysore, has obtained by the Capture of Seringapatam

52 The question being rather abstracte few can chance to fall upon exactly the same rules by which to determine the fact concerning that men will generally assent to the propriety of those which occur to common sense, I shall submit to your considerations my mode of reasoning upon the subject, and the opinions deduced from it, as consistent with Equity.

I Where being no act of the legislature for regulating claims to or shares of prize property, and custom being in default of such rule, the guide in other matters, they are necessarily determined by precedent that is, by what has been generally conceived in similar case to be just, or as men should act by one another

O No

II No English Army in this Country "has actually employed in the siege of a place ever insisted on an exclusive right to the plunder found in it, when there were an absent corps or Detachments, that had materially contributed to the success of the main body

III The justice or propriety of admitting Detachments that contribute to the main army's success in the participation of prize, is therefore founded in a consciousness of Right, and established by custom — Indeed the little I say any Detachment on that principle, and support it on the following grounds — 1 My efforts in making provision for the wants of the army having been such, even before it was assembled "as to "afford the Commander in Chief a well "grounded hope of being enabled, thro' my "means, to move forward into the enemy's "country, with an ample Supply of every "necessary article" — 2d My having provided the army with 61 days Rice for the troops, and a Months provision for the camp followers, at its entering the enemy's Country, exclusive of other Supplies without which it could not have undertaken the siege of Seringapatam, as all the

Par.t 6 5 6

Par.t 23 26

Para 20 The Commissary of grain originally had not 54 days Rice for the troops and a store for three Months was deemed necessary to that undertaking. 3.d The people employed by me having delivered 101 Garces of grain, or 6 Months provision for 30,000 men to the Superintendent of Supplies in Camp, as proved by his receipts in my possession, when the Army was before Seringapatam, without which it must have raised the Seige - 4.th My having provided a Second Supply which in the event of an Para 16 possible failure would have enabled the Army to continue the Siege till the certain Reduction of the place. 5.th My having established the Company's Government in the enemy's district North of the Cauvery, and Para 30 31. made such arrangements for Securing their Resources, as must have proved of the greatest utility in the prosecution of the war.

II.d The participation of Detachments being under particular circumstances admitted, reason points out that if there must be a distinction made between two detachments that which first Composed a part of the Grand Army or rendered Service deemed the most conducive to the fall of the place besieged, must have the prior right to participate of Prize - I claim

Now

for my Detachment the priority of right to share in the prize property of Seringapatam and from these circumstances. — 1st formed
Par 24 a part of the Grand Army before the siege, and was always denominated a Detachment of the Army 2d It entered the Enemy's Country with the Army — 3d There is no other Detach-
Par 47 ment to which the Army is so "deeply "indebted as to mine for its uninterrupted "success." —

V There may be no precedent for including a Detachment that never joined the main body of an Army in the participation of prize, but when it is certain that the place besieged could not have been taken without the services performed by such Detachment it must be illiberal in the Captors, if not unjust to exclude it. —

VI It may be imagined from the foregoing positions, that there may be so many gradations in the title to prize, as to create no perplexity in drawing the line of right, but in comparing the few cases that occur there must be such obvious differences, as to admit of it without giving reason to think that injustice has been done to any part of the army — The prize Committees having included a part of my Detachment in

the

the participation of prize, and excluded the rest by the line it has drawn, which is "That all those who were present during any part of the Siege of Seringapatam, all those who were above the ghauts in the enemy's country on the 6th March 1799 with the Grand Army and all those who were above the ghauts with the Bombay Army on the same day Viz.t 6th March 1799. be entitled to Share the Seringapatam prize, and no other person," is no refutation of this position for I have it from the best authority, that it intended at first to include the whole of the Detachment, and was much surprized to find that half of it with myself were excluded. This extraordinary occurrence proceeded as I have been well assured from the Committee not having known that the Army entered the enemy's Country in four divisions on four successive days, that a part only of the Detachment forming the first division entered the enemy's country on the 5th and that the remainder forming a part of the fourth division entered it on the 8th last if so were otherwise then the Committee did from intention what I have been told was from Mistake — The Committee having met and deliberated

deliberated sitted on this point with adequate information before it, several considerations must have determined it to refer my claim, with others in dispute, to your decision— His having done so, and omitted to state the points above mentioned for your information, may have proceeded from its having been more occupied with the claims of others who had threatened it with the rigor of the law, than with those of my Detachment. The reference being made, I have done my duty to myself, and those who were under my command, in stating fully the nature of our claims, and trust that you will rectify the Committee's mistake— I have but one more position to state.—

VII The shares of the Main body can seldom be so reduced by the participation of Detachments as to be materially felt by the Captors, because the proportion that Detached parts of an Army destined for a siege in this Country make of the whole is seldom considerable, and consequently the making a general fund of the plunder taken during the war, in which all who serve in the enemy's country shall share, would be a plan more becoming the Military Character, than a

partial

partial distribution, and it would be the
certain way to give general satisfaction -
It appears from the proceedings of the Comm
A.N.5 that knowing the very liberal
Sentiments of the Army which captured
Seringapatam, it was determined to extend
the division of prize, beyond those who w
present at the fall of the place to the
who were nearly connected with them
in the operations of the Campaign an
shard with them in the fortune of th
field" - It seems to have been greatly
satisfied at having discovered such a n
land Mark such a prominent feature
of the war, and it observes; the 6th March
appears a period as unexceptionable as
any, probably the most so, as it includ
the corps in the action at Sedaseer"
It appears however the Committee lo
sight of its land Mark for having
acknowledged that no exertions could
exceed Colonel Read's and that none co
be of more signal utility, it must ha
been sensible that a and all of my
Detachment" were particularly connect
with the besieging Army in the opera
tions of the Campaign, and that all
us being equally connected with it, all
had

had an equal right to share of prize? —
And yet by firing on the 6th March as the
line of Right, one half shares, and the
* other half is excluded! The Committee does
not say this was from design or accident,
but whether one or the other, it has
attempted to palliate or excuse it, by
remarking that "All can be said is, it
was not their good fortune, nor was it
the good fortune of the Detachment
under Lieutenant Colonel Brown" to
share — In short it is clear in my
opinion, and I surely have a Right to
give one, on its conduct, the Committee
proceeded to decide, before it had sufficient
information before it to form distinct
notions of the several degrees of Right to
prize, and excepting the single rule above
cited, of including in the participation
those who were nearly connected with
the besieging army, the only principle
I can discover in its proceedings at Rykota
is

* 1 Lieutenant Colonel, 5 Captains, 1 Assistant
Surgeon 12 Subalterns, 17 Troopers and 70 European
Infantry were excluded besides the Natives
of 3 Rajah's Corps since disbanded

ed, it's not having extended the Line of Right further than it did, lest it should fritter away the Shares of the Captors to a mine piece. I presume that consistent with the very liberal Sentiments of the Army who captured Seringapatam, none among you will suffer such a consideration, to weigh a moment with you while deliberating on the rights, fair claims of your brother officers. - Let it not be said that the Army, which has made the greatest conquest our Nation can boast of, has made the most partial and selfish division of prize, that has ever been made in India, - As there is enough for all to participate who served in the enemy's country during the war, it will be more of a piece with the lustre of your actions in the field, with the greatness of the event they have produced, and with the generosity of Soldiers, to let no man who can establish his claim on that broad, and liberal line suffer the mis = = appointment of not sharing in the advantages derived, not from the exertions of those alone who were before the place when fell, but the united efforts of the whole. -

I observe the propositions submitted to you by the Committee for foreign affairs, under the head of "Claims on the part of Lieutenant Colonel Brown and his Detachment" are so constructed as to create the necessity of employing it, or some other constituted authority, to decide, ultimately, on their claims, and that no distinction is made between them, and the claims of others, all being confounded in the general term "Detachment" The reference being made, professedly, with the intention of "enabling you to decide" on the several claims in dispute, it was to be expected that the Committee would have stated them severally, and their degrees of connexion with the besieging Army, / its avowed / principle / without which a body so dispersed as the Army can only form / resolutions, preparatory, to the final / decisions upon them - As placing the Army in this predicament, is unnecessary, I shall being already concerned, take upon me to point out how it may be avoided by stating the claim in dispute, distinctly, that you may finally decide upon them without the aid of intermediate agents. -

Shall

1 Shall the whole of Lieutenant Colonel Read's Detachment that encamped with the Grand Army, and entered the enemy's Country with it, between the 4th and 16th March 1799 share in the prize property captured at Seringapatam? Or shall that part of it only, included by the Commander for prize affairs, be allowed to share?

2d Shall Lieutenant Colonels Brown and Read's Detachments, that entered the enemy's country by the Cauvery pass in question, between the 27th April and 6th May 1799, participate

3 Shall all the Troops employed in the field, and in the enemy's Country on the 4th May, the day Seringapatam was taken be included in the participation of prize?

4 Shall the Troops employed to Garrison forts in the enemy's country, previous to the fall of Seringapatam share?

5 Shall Major Grant and the Bombay Battalion under his command share?

6 Shall these points be determined by a Majority of Corps? Or by a Majority of Individuals?

(7) These propositions being severally submitted to your decision, you will find your own

own power to extend the limit of Right to any length that may be expected, from justice, or liberality, without delay, or reference, and without opening claims to troops at the remotest boundary of our possessions in India as extravagantly supposed by the Committee - such being clearly the case, I hope you will now decide yourselves on the claims of Detachments and Corps, and think any future delegation of your authority for the purpose unnecessary.

I have the honor to be
Gentlemen
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) Alex.r Read
Lt. Col.l late Comm.d of a
Detach.t of the army that
conquered Mysore

Fort St. George
28.th October 1799

P.S.

I might have shown in the foregoing address, that whatever Right or Authority Lieutenant General Harris had as Commander in Chief to regulate the distribution of prize property, he resigned it to the army, that his suggestions to Major General Lloyd for forming a plan of distribution, by assembling the heads of Brigades, or otherwise

was

was merely to enable the Army to determine
what plan should be adopted and that as
the Right he yielded was not to them in
particular, but to the Officers of the Army at
large employed in the conquest of Mysore they
could only, upon being authorized by their re-
Subordinates, appoint a Committee to act
for such proportion of those Officers as being
present became their constituents by re-
joining in the election, and that consequently
the Committee they appointed had no right
to take in Management the prize property,
which belonged to the proportion of the re-
Officers composing the Army who were absent
and had the same right as the others to
vote for the Committee — I might likewise
have shown how the Committee, elected in
a part, proceeded to monopolize the pro-
perty of the whole, for the benefit of itself
and its constituents, how it failed in an
attempt upon the Commander in Chiefs
own share, how it succeeded in depriving re-
parts of the Army from any share re-
whatever, and how shamefully it added to
the Shares of its own Members and re-
favorites. — It might also have been re-

Shown

shown how it endeavored after it began to dread the consequence of going farther upon such a questionable ground, to bias the judgements of its constituents in regard to the claims referred to them by a strange kind of logic and a erroneous statement of facts, on which the Committee itself had formed its opinion.

But I leave it for the Lawyers to dispute the legality of its constitution, to judge of the powers assumed by the Committee in opposition to the orders of the Commander in Chief, and to settle whether the term Individual has been properly applied to mean Corps and Detachments or not— as to the Statement alluded to, the Committee being so ashamed of it, though evidently great pains had been taken to prepare it for the public eye; as to suppress it by calling in all the copies of its address in circulation that must give every thinking man such an impression of all its proceedings as to preclude any comment— I consider however all these matters of no consequence now to the object of my address, which is to obtain justice to myself, and the part of my Detachment that I consider as depraved

of its right for the Committee having ceased to Exercise the powers it had, and referred our claims to its constituents, it is not worth my while to enquire upon what principles it was incorporated, or whether the powers it Exercised were legally obtained or not. But I think it is incumbent on all those Offices who did not vote for the Committee to make it responsible for having taken charge of their property and disposed of it without their concurrence, by selling it for their proportion of the whole. —

The Committee having referred the cases under consideration to its Constituents desiring their instructions for its future guidance and thereby Suspended its function as a Committee, I conclude that its constituents are absolved of their engagements to abide by its decisions and that they will not consider themselves as in any respect subordinate to it, till they shall please to restore the powers, which it had resigned. —

It is from this view of the relation in which the Committee and its Constituents now stand, and from a desire of

of the injury it has done me and my Detach-
ment by omitting to state our claims in
such a manner as would have enabled them
to judge; that I have not requested it to circulate
this address, and as it has given such general
disgust, I shall hope that its constituents will
in future think and act for themselves, especially
in matters of appeal to them from their
Brother Officers.

All the Corps that
composed the Army employed in the
Conquest of Mysore having an equal right
to decide on claims to a participation
of the prize property, obtained by
their united Effort, I subjoin a list
of them as constituting the Army to
which I appeal. —

List

List of Corps &c employed in the Conquest of Mysore

| | 1st Batt. | 2 Regt. | Coast | 3d Infantry |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Coast Engineers | | | | |
| Bombay do | 2d do | 1 do | 3 do | 3d Compy |
| 19th Light Dragoons | 1st do | 2 do | 4 do | |
| 25th do do | 2d do | 2 do | 5 do | |
| 1st Regt Native Cavalry | 1st do | 3 do | 6 do | |
| 2d do do do | 2d do | 3 do | 5 do | |
| 3rd do do do | 1st do | 4 do | 6 do | Flank Co |
| 4th do do do | 2d do | 4 do | 5 do | |
| Montgomery's Troops Native Cavalry | 1st do | 5 do | 6 do | 8 do |
| Cuddy's do do | 2d do | 5 do | 6 do | |
| Bengal artillery 8 Companies | 1st do | 6 do | 5 do | |
| 1st Battalion Coast artillery | 2d do | 7 do | 6 do | |
| 2d do do do | 1st do | 8 do | 5 do | |
| Bombay artillery | 2d do | 9 do | 5 do | |
| 12th Regiment Foot | 1st do | 11 do | 5 do | |
| 19th do do 5 Companies | 2d do | 11 do | 5 do | |
| 33rd do do | 1st do | 12 do | 5 do | |
| 73d do do | 2d do | 12 do | 5 do | |
| 74th do do | 1st do | 13 do | 5 do | 8 do |
| 75th do do | 2d do | 13 do | 5 do | 8 do |
| 77th do do | 1st do | 23 do | 5 do | Bombay N. Infant |
| Scotch Brigade 5 Companies | 2d do | 2 do | 5 do | 5 do |
| Swiss Regiment | 1st do | 3d do | 5 do | 5 do |
| 1st Division 1st Coast Regt | 2d do | 3d do | 5 do | 5 do |
| 2d do 2d do | 1st do | 4th do | 5 do | 5 do |
| Bombay do | 1st do | 5 do | 5 do | 5 do |
| 1st Batt 10th Regt Bengal N. Infy | | | | |
| 2d do 10th do do | | | | |
| 1st do Bengal Volunteers | | | | |
| 2d do do do | | | | |
| 3rd do do do | | | | |